

OUR STRICKLER HERITAGE



**AN ILLUSTRATED ACCOUNT OF
OUR HELLAM TOWNSHIP STRICKLERS
FROM HEINRICH, JR., TO CALVIN, EDWARD, AND SUSIE**

by
MORGAN G. BRENNER

FRONT COVER ILLUSTRATION

The Alfred Dietz Strickler Family
ca. 1880
James Rudisill Collection

Seated, L-R: Alfred Dietz Strickler (1843-1902), Susan Irene Strickler (1871-1917), Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby Strickler (1845-1928); Standing, L-R: Edward Dietz Strickler (1869-1941), Calvin Ruby Strickler (1866-1923)

FRONTISPIECE

Elizabeth S. Ruby Strickler and Alfred Dietz Strickler
Probably Ca. 1890s
Rosevale Farm House Probably in the Background
James C. Strickler Collection



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	i
Acknowledgements	ii
Introduction	iii
Chapter I: The Immigrants	1
Chapter II: Our Direct Ancestors	9
Chapter III: Strickler Homesteads	29
Chapter IV: Strickler Cemeteries	53
Chapter V: Strickler Mills	61
Chapter VI: The Death of Alfred Dietz Strickler	79
Chapter VII: The Beidler Side of the Family	87
Chapter VIII: The Ruby Side of the Family	91
Chapter IX: The Dietz Side of the Family	103
Chapter X: Recollections of Alfred's Grandson and Great Grandchildren	107
Chapter XI: Strickler Bits and Pieces	111
Chapter XII: Marriages and Deaths	177

TABLE OF CONTENTS

(CONTINUED)

Notes	191
Appendices	
A. Maps and Aerial Photographs	209
B. The Battle of Wrightsville and the Susquehanna River Crossings	221
C. Suggested Readings	229
D. A Strickler Coat of Arms	233
E. Points to Ponder	235
F. Strickler Name History	237
Bibliography	247
Addendum: The Descendants of Alfred Deitz Strickler	249
Author's Note	255
Epilogue	257

. PREFACE

This book, a labor of love, is an account of the people, places, events, and things of our known Strickler ancestors. In compiling it, as the contents suggest, the author followed his belief that “genealogy is not just who begat whom.”

May this book be passed on to our descendants so that they may become knowledgeable of and appreciative of Our Strickler Heritage.

The material is not guaranteed to be absolutely accurate, for there is much contradictory information between and among various sources and some just plain unavailable data. Whenever a conflict occurred, the version that appeared most frequently or the one that seemed to be acceptably verified was used.

Sources include conversations with family members, Strickler relatives, and Strickler genealogists; family member archives, visits to Strickler sites, libraries, and the ubiquitous Internet. Family members who contributed photographs are recognized with the photograph.

The account ends with Calvin Ruby Strickler, Edward Dietz Strickler, and Susan Irene Strickler (and their spouses), the children of Alfred Dietz Strickler and Elizabeth S. “Lizzie” Ruby Strickler. Our oldest living family members are the grandchildren of Calvin or Susie. Since presumably all of us oldsters are aware of our immediate family lore and have passed it on to our children and grandchildren, there is no need for this book to go beyond Alfred’s and Lizzie’s offspring.

In this book, text that has been extrapolated or transcribed from a source is, in lieu of quotation marks, in a smaller type font (*this*) from that of the basic material, this font. In the transcribed material, a series of question marks; i.e.,????, indicates that a word or a series of words is unreadable in the original.

It would have been most effective to have reproduced the original newspaper clippings, etc. However, most, being more than a few days old, did not scan well enough to be readable. Thus, transcriptions!

If you wish more detailed “family tree” information on any of our Strickler ancestors or on the Beidler, Ruby, or Dietz side of the family, contact the author.

If you wish a copy of any of the photographs, contact the author.

And, if you have additions or corrections, please submit them to the author for a second edition.

Morgan G. Brenner
Havertown, PA
October, 2011

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following provided copies of newspaper microfilm and other reference services:

- Free Library of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
- Guthrie Memorial Library, Hanover, PA
- Kreutz Creek Valley Preservation Society, Hellam Township, PA
- Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, Lancaster, PA
- Lancaster Public Library, Lancaster, PA
- Latrobe Area Historical Society, Latrobe, PA
- York County Archives, York, PA
- York County Heritage Trust , York, PA

Cheryl Rhein (Mrs. Robert H.), on September 25, 2010, graciously provided a complete tour of Rosevale, our homestead and the residence of her family, to Jim Strickler, Jim Rudisill, Joe Brillhart, and the author. She granted a follow-up tour of the entire farm to Jim Strickler and the author on June 13, 2011.

Cousin James Rudisill, the eminent York County historian and a veritable trove of Hellam Township Strickler knowledge, provided immeasurable help and shared many photographs from his collection.

Cousin James C. Strickler has a scrapbook compiled by his grandmother, Harriet Mary "Hattie" Bursk Strickler. Jim graciously provided photocopies of many items from it.

Cousin Jay Harold Strickler, a superb computer pixel-ologist, created and provided the magnificent cover of this book from an idea of the author and brilliantly enhanced a number of photographs.

Cousin Joseph P. Brillhart, a Ruby descendant, provided material relating to the Rubys, especially Lizzie, much of which he transcribed from originals.

Frank W. Duff of Waynesboro, Virginia, a prominent Strickler genealogist and a descendant of Abraham Strickler, a brother of Heinrich, our direct ancestor, graciously tied up many loose ends from his extensive files.

Lee Gruenfeld provided computer support and book format suggestions.

And, Elsa A. Brenner provided her interest, enthusiasm, understanding, encouragement, patience, constructive editing, dogged proof reading, and all of those scans.

INTRODUCTION

- **A HISTORY OF SWITZERLAND IN FIFTY FOUR WORDS**
- **STRICKLER GEOGRAPHY**
- **PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP HISTORIES**
- **STRICKLER BACKGROUND**

A HISTORY OF SWITZERLAND IN FIFTY FOUR WORDS

Switzerland, the former Roman province of Helvetia, traces its modern history to 1291 when three cantons created a defensive league. Other cantons were subsequently admitted to the Swiss Confederation, which obtained its independence from the Holy Roman Empire through the Peace of Westphalia in 1648. The cantons were joined under a federal constitution in 1848. From *The World Almanac and Book of Facts, 2011*.

STRICKLER GEOGRAPHY

Our known early Strickler families lived in or near what is now the Municipality of **Hirzel** (2010 population 2,106), District of **Horgen** (2010 Population 115,106), Canton of **Zurich** (2010 Population 1,371,007), **Switzerland**. The area is on the south shore of The Lake of Zurich in the northeast section of the country (See Map K). In the District of Horgen, there also is a Village of Horgen (2010 Population 18,935). A district is comparable to our township; a canton is comparable to our county.

Switzerland
From Wikipedia

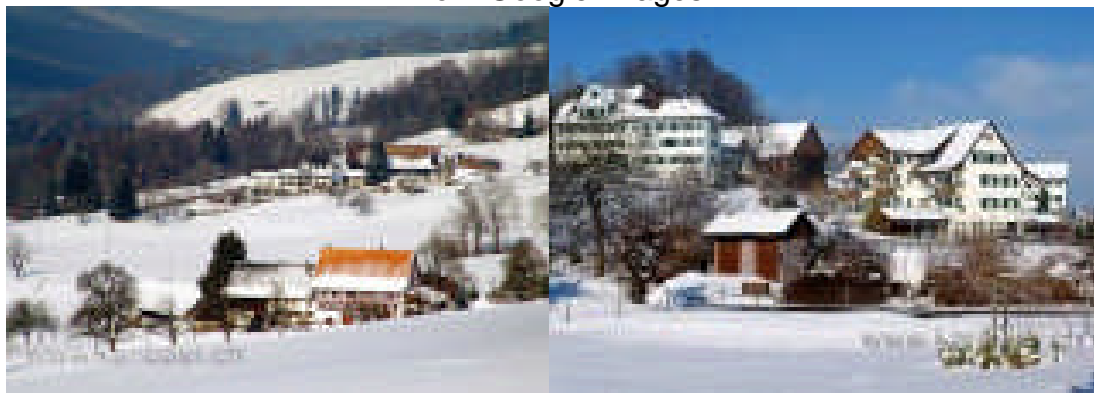


Hirzel, Switzerland
Ca. 1910
Frank Duff Collection
According to Frank, the area now is almost treeless.



These photographs, below and on the following page, a bit more current than the one above, also capture the magic of the terrain and the intriguing architecture of the Hirzel area.

Scenes of Hirzel, Switzerland
Dates of Photographs Unknown
From Google Images





This photograph is of a drumlin in the Hirzel area. A drumlin is a long ridge or oval-shaped hill formed by glacial drift.



As a result of religious persecution, many Stricklers (including our ancestors), beginning in 1671, fled to **Ibersheim, Palatinate (Rheinland-Pfalz), Germany**, from where they eventually immigrated to America. Ibersheim is a village in **Rheinhessen**, about eight miles north of **Worms**, annexed by that city in 1969. The Palatinate is in the southwest corner of Germany, bordering France, Luxembourg, and Belgium, and west of Baden-Wurtemberg, which is just across the border from Switzerland. Ibersheim (Worms) is on the eastern border of Rheinland-Pfalz and Baden-Wurtemberg (See Map H), on the Rhine River. Hirzel to Ibersheim was a bit of a trek for the Stricklers.

Upon arrival in America from Ibersheim (through Rotterdam) in about 1725, the first of our Strickler immigrant ancestors settled in what became several years later **Hempfield Township**, now **West Hempfield Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania** (2000 population 15,128; See Note 1). The township is at the western end of the county, on the Susquehanna River. Within the township, is the Borough of **Columbia**, on the river. East of West Hempfield Township are the Borough of **Mountville** and the City of **Lancaster**, the county seat.

Our direct line of Stricklers moved in 1749 from Hempfield Township to **Hellam Township** (2000 population 5,930; see Note 2), on the eastern edge of **York County**, just across the Susquehanna River from Hempfield Township. Within Hellam Township are the Borough of **Hallam** (note spelling) and the Borough of **Wrightsville**--at the eastern end, on the river. Immediately to the west of Hellam Township is **Springettsbury Township**, and immediately to the west of Springettsbury Township is the City of **York**, the county seat. Immediately south of Hellam Township is **Lower Windsor Township**; **Windsor Township** is southwest of Hellam Township

PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP HISTORIES

While the Stricklers did migrate around south central and southeastern Pennsylvania (See Map G), county and township borders often changed, giving the impression of family relocation. Sometimes folks went to bed in X township and awakened in Y township after border change legislation became effective.

The situation is particularly obvious in viewing a genealogy report in which locations of birth, death, and marriage are recorded. That a person was born, married, and died in different locations could just as well indicate a border change as well as relocation.

The following may assist in understanding the geo-political implications.

Counties

- The three original counties of Pennsylvania were Philadelphia, Bucks, and Chester.
- Lancaster County was formed from Chester County on May 10, 1729.
- York County was formed from Lancaster County on August 8, 1749.
- Five other counties were formed from Lancaster County between 1750 and 1813: Cumberland, Berks, Northumberland, Dauphin, and Lebanon.
- Adams County was formed from York County on January 22, 1800.

York County Townships

- Hellam Township was formed in 1739 while still part of Lancaster County. Within the township, the Borough of Hallam was settled in 1770 and incorporated in 1902; the Borough of Wrightsville was settled in 1811 and incorporated in 1834.
- Windsor Township was formed from Hellam Township in 1753.
- York Township was formed from Hellam Township in 1753.
- Spring Garden Township was formed from Hellam Township in 1822.
- Lower Windsor Township was formed from Windsor Township in 1838.
- Springettsbury Township was formed from Spring Garden Township in 1891.

Lancaster County Townships

- Hempfield Township was formed in 1729.
- Manor Township was formed from Hempfield Township about 1740.

- East Hempfield Township and West Hempfield Township were formed from Hempfield Township in 1818. Within West Hempfield Township, the Borough of Columbia was settled about 1726 and incorporated in 1814. The Borough of Mountville was settled in 1814 as the Village of Mount Pleasant. When a post office was established in 1842, the name of the village was changed to Mountville. It was incorporated as the Borough of Mountville in 1906.

STRICKLER BACKGROUND

The name Strickler is comprised of two parts: "Strick" and "ler." The ending of "ler" was common in early Switzerland as a way of defining location. Thus, a Strickler was a dweller of the Strick. The Strick was a pathway, the route, if you will, between the Benedictine Abbey at Einsiedlen and the village of Wädenswil. Einsiedlen is a municipality in the Canton of Schwyz, south of the Canton of Zurich. Wädenswil is a municipality in the District of Horgen in the Canton of Zurich (See Map K).

The very early Stricklers lived on the mountain over which the path crossed. Today the village of Samstagern is located in the area, and it is said that the early Strickler farms were near what is now that mountaintop village. Samstagern is in the Municipality of Richterswil in the District of Horgen (See Map K).

Samstagern, Switzerland
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Wikipedia



The early inhabitants of this sparsely settled area were of Alemannic descent, a Gothic tribe, named by the Romans, which had invaded Switzerland and Alsace during the 5th century. From 1287 until 1549 the area belonged to the "Command of Wädenswil" under the administration of the "Order of St. John of Jerusalem" at the old castle of Wädenswil. From its beginning, the family spread throughout the surrounding area where today one finds the villages of Hütten, Schönenberg, and Hirzel.

It should be noted that in German, “Strick” means cord, and a Strickler would have been one who wove with cord. Some historians have attempted to relate the name derivation to a cord. However, the Stricklers are Swiss, not German!

The earliest known mention of a form of Strickler was about 1250 when a monk in the Cloister was identified as Klaus (Nicklaus) am Strick. AAm@, like “ler”, was a common Swiss designation for location, literally meaning Aof.@ The first known person with the full name of Strickler may have appeared in 1470, Heinin Strickler, the innkeeper of Wirt am Sternen. Other sources indicate that as late as 1470 the name was “am Strick” and that the first known Stricklers were Kleinhans, Grosshans, and Rudi Strickler who lived on Richterswilberg at the Freudhübsch farm.

A complete name history is provided in Appendix F.

The Stricklers, primarily farmers, were Swiss Mennonites (See Notes 3 and 4), a splinter group of the Anabaptists (See Notes 5, 6, and 7). The followers had been persecuted for over a hundred years following the Reformation (which ended in 1648) by the State and by the Reformed Church which attempted to drive them into religious conformity. Consequently, many fled to Ibersheim where they were promised religious freedom by Karl I Ludwig in return for farming the land that had been devastated by the Thirty Years War. The Mennonites were reputed to have been excellent farmers. On a 1752 map, Ibersheimer was designated as “Wiedertaufhor” (Anabaptist Estate) because it had been populated entirely by Mennonites since 1661. The return of Catholic power to the area in the early 1700s caused a recurrence of the persecution and led to the emigration to America. It is estimated that in the early 1700s some 2,500 Mennonites fled the Palatinate for America.

After their arrival in America, the Stricklers apparently retained their Mennonite faith, including pacifism, for at least several generations. During the American Revolution, several male Stricklers were fined for their refusal to bear arms. Later, however, at least six Stricklers were active in the Civil War; none was of our direct lineage.

Apparently Alfred was the first of our Stricklers (although there may have been unknown others) to “break away” from the Mennonite religion. He was German Reformed (See Note 8). It is not known whether he was reared as such or whether he adopted that faith after his marriage to Lizzie who was German Reformed from her French Huguenot heritage. Their first son, Calvin, and his offspring became Presbyterians while second-son Edward became a Lutheran. Daughter Susie went to an Episcopal “finishing school,” where she was confirmed as an Episcopalian in 1891 (wonder how Alfred and Lizzie reacted to that), and, as a result, she and then her daughters and her husband became Episcopalians. One might suspect that Edward adopted the affiliation of his wife, Anna, who was a Lutheran. Harriet, wife of Calvin, was a Lutheran, and Calvin, apparently already a Presbyterian at the time of his marriage, remained such.

Some of our ancestral relatives became Old Order River Brethren (See Note 9), a more strict off-shoot of the Mennonites. Jim Rudisill states that Lizzie converted to that faith in her 60s, possibly baptized in Kreutz Creek (or maybe in

Lancaster County). Jim Strickler recalls being told by his father and his Aunt Katherine that after converting, Lizzie not only dressed “plain,” but allowed no mirrors in the house. She is said to have quoted, “Vanity, vanity, all is vanity.” In addition, she allowed no store-bought toys on the farm; toys had to have been made on the farm or by neighbors. Neighborhood religious services at the home were said to be marathons. Her obituary states that three ministers from the River Brethren in Lancaster County, including a John M. Strickler, conducted the funeral services and that six other members served as pallbearers. John M. Strickler was Bishop John Musser Strickler, a River Brethren minister and a 5th cousin of Lizzie.

Family lore says that Alfred and Lizzie spoke Pennsylvania Dutch (See Note 10), and many of the expressions of that dialect filtered down to their more educated children and grandchildren.

All of our line of Stricklers continued to farm until the children of Alfred and Lizzie were the first to eschew that occupation. However, Alfred’s great grandson Jim Strickler, with his 16 acre spread in beautiful Norwich, VT, probably can be considered a “gentlemen farmer”.

It appears that the Stricklers did not arrive in America indentured to pay for their travel, etc. In fact, according to Jim Rudisill, there is evidence that family remaining in Germany told the immigrants that if “things did not work out,” return fare would be sent. In addition, the large farms acquired and the expansive houses built by the original immigrants indicate that probably they arrived with some degree of relative wealth.

CHAPTER I

THE IMMIGRANTS

- **BACKGROUND**
- **THE FIRST STRICKLER IMMIGRANTS**
- **EARLY STRICKLER HOMESTEADS**
- **THE SECOND GROUP OF STRICKLER IMMIGRANTS**
- **STRICKLERS IN YORK COUNTY, SUMMARY**
- **SETTLEMENTS IN YORK COUNTY**
- **STRICKLERS IN AMERICA TODAY**
- **THE OLDEST LIVING STRICKLERS OF OUR DIRECT LINE**

Stricklers in America began with the immigration of three brothers, Abraham, Conrad, and Heinrich. They were part of the mass immigration of Swiss Mennonites to America through the Palatinate in the 1720s and '30s. See Note 11 for a detailed account of early immigration.

BACKGROUND

The immigration of Mennonites (See Notes 3 and 4) to America began in 1683 when Francis Daniel Pastorius, a well-to-do German lawyer, acting as agent for a group of Mennonites, Pietists (See Note 5), and Quakers purchased from William Penn 15,000 acres for a settlement in what is now the Germantown section of Philadelphia. On October 6, 1683, the ship *Concord* docked in Philadelphia bearing the group, "thirteen heads of families" with their wives.

In 1710, Martin Kundig and Hans Herr of Amsterdam, Holland, took title for the Mennonites to 10,000 acres on Pequea Creek in what is now West Hempfield Township. It was known then as Conestoga for the Native American tribe of the same name which lived there. This area is where the first Strickler immigrants later settled.

During this time, the Swiss government had taken the intriguing position of attempting to prevent the "better" class of citizens from leaving the country. Accordingly, an immigration tax was imposed, and in some cases the government threatened to confiscate property from those who voluntarily emigrated.

Conversely, the government wanted to encourage the departure of the poorer classes and the radical religious groups such as the Mennonites. In 1711, get this,

the government decided to waive the immigration tax and to pay for transportation to Holland for the Mennonites provided they agreed never to return to Switzerland. Billy Penn must not have had to resort to the “hard sell” during his recruiting trips to the area in the early 1700s (although some sources deny that he, himself, actually made such trips).

THE FIRST STRICKLER IMMIGRANTS

The first two of the three original immigrant brothers were Abraham (1693-1746) and Conrad (1695-1771), the first and second sons of Hans Strickler (1669-1737) and his first wife, Elsbeth Lohrer Strickler (1671-1697). Hans and Elsbeth had left Switzerland prior to 1693, locating first in Schwelwig-Holstein, Germany, where Abraham was born, before moving to Ibersheim, where all of their subsequent children were born.

Abraham, perhaps in his early thirties, traveled to America with his wife, Anna Ruffner Strickler (there is debate about her maiden name), and their two sons, Abraham, Jr., and Isaac, possibly ages five and one, respectively. Conrad, perhaps about thirty, traveled with his wife, Barbara Unknown Strickler, and their daughter, Barbara, about four or five years old. All of them arrived (ship unknown) in Philadelphia sometime before August 19, 1725 (Abraham is known to have paid local taxes on that date) and settled on a farm of 161.25 acres, purchased by Abraham, in what became several years later Hempfield Township, now West Hempfield Township.

It is possible that Abraham and Conrad, who, it is believed, married Dutch girls, lived in the Netherlands after leaving Ibersheim and before emigrating.

The third of the three original immigrant brothers, **Heinrich (1696-1761)**, our direct ancestor, was the third son of Hans and Elsbeth (a fourth son, Hans, Jr., died in infancy in 1697). He arrived in Philadelphia from Rotterdam on the ship *Friendship of Bristol* on October 16, 1727. It should be noted that this date may not be the actual arrival date. It may be the date on which the passengers “qualified”; i.e., took the oath of allegiance to the King. “Qualification” dates may have been several weeks after the actual arrival in port. Then about age 31, he traveled with his wife, Susanna Stauffer Strickler (there is debate about her maiden name), and their two young sons, Johannes “John,” age five, and **Heinrich, Jr. (1725-1792)**, age 2. They were among 46 Palatinate families comprising about 200 people onboard the ship. **Heinrich** and his family joined his two brothers and their families on the Hempfield Township farm. It is not known why **Heinrich** did not accompany his older brothers to America two years previously. Perhaps Susanna was not exactly wild about making the trip, for she already had a three year old and was either pregnant with **Heinrich, Jr.** or he had just been born.

EARLY STRICKLER HOMESTEADS

In 1732 or '33, Abraham sold the Hempfield Township farm to his kid brother, **Heinrich**, and with his wife Anna and their six children moved to Virginia where he and others who followed propagated a line of prominent Stricklers in what is now Page County along the Shenandoah River in the northwest section of the state. Abraham had been traveling between Virginia and Pennsylvania for a number of years as a licensed fur trader. The children of Abraham and Anna remained in Virginia as adults and reared their families.

Conrad left the Hempfield Township farm also in 1732 or '33, moving to a part of Hellam Township, which later became Springettsbury Township, with his wife, Barbara, and six of their eventual seven children where he began the first York County line. At that time, the land was home to the Susquehannock Indians. Conrad acquired his land through Samuel Blunston, a resident of Columbia, who as a land agent of the Penn family granted permits for settlements in what are now York, Adams, and Cumberland Counties. Conrad's request to Blunston for permission to settle across the Susquehanna was recorded on August 23, 1732. His farm was adjacent to that of his half-brother, Ulrich, who arrived in the area in 1742. Ulrich's farm now is the site of the Strickler Family Homestead, the Strickler-Miller Cemetery, the York County prison, and other county facilities (See Chapter III). At least three of Conrad's children remained in York County; the whereabouts of the other four are unknown. Ulrich had three sons, all of whom remained in York County—as did their descendants for several generations.

Conrad was involved in Cresap's War, a border dispute between Maryland and Pennsylvania that was not settled until the Mason Dixon Line was drawn in 1767. He and several other York Countians who believed that they owned land in Pennsylvania were imprisoned in Annapolis, Maryland, while attending a funeral. He was released upon a promise that he would remove himself from his land which Maryland authorities claimed was in Maryland. He did not; the case eventually went to a court which held that the land was in Pennsylvania.

Heinrich and Susanna remained on the Hempstead Township farm and had, debatably, seven or eight more children for a total of ten or so. Two of them may have been adopted, children of Abraham, Jr. of Virginia. **Heinrich, Jr.**, moved in 1749 to York County and began our direct line while **Heinrich's** and Susanna's other children scattered to Fayette, Dauphin, and Lancaster County, PA. **Heinrich, Jr.'s** older brother, Johannes, also moved to York County, in Windsor Township. The whereabouts of three are unknown.

THE SECOND GROUP OF STRICKLER IMMIGRANTS

In March of 1697, Hans Strickler's wife, Elsbeth Lohrer Strickler, mother of the three original immigrant brothers, died. Sometime in 1698, Hans married Anna Heistand (1675-) with whom he had five children. In April, 1737, Hans died. Five months later, Anna Heistand Strickler (maybe) and the five children arrived in

Philadelphia from Rotterdam on the ship *Charming Nancy*, landing on September 18, 1737. They “qualified” on October 8, which is frequently cited as their arrival date. The group apparently joined **Heinrich** on the farm in Hempfield Township (his two older brothers had moved away by then).

The five children of Hans and his second wife, Anna Heistand Strickler, half-siblings of the three original immigrant brothers, are the following:

- Anna Katharina (1701-1738) had married Ulrich Shellenberger before emigrating; they remained in Hempfield Township; five children.
- Hans Jacob (1704-1782) married Anna Catharina Heistand; six children. They moved to Donegal, now Rapho, Township, Lancaster County, between 1740 and 1745 where they remained until 1758 when they moved to a 210 acre farm in Mt. Joy Township, Lancaster County. In 1779, he deeded that land to his third son, Abraham. He disappeared from records thereafter.
- Ulrich (1709-1749) married Mary Kneisley Kauffman; he moved to Hellam, now Springettsbury, Township in 1742, before his marriage; three children. He is said to have been a weaver. On May 5, 1742, he purchased from John Davis land adjacent to Conrad Strickler, his half-brother. The tract contained just over 400 acres and was part of the original Samuel Blunston patent. His farm is now the site of the Strickler Family Homestead, the Strickler-Miller Cemetery, the York County Prison, and other county facilities (See Chapter III).
- Anna Barbara (1715-1765) married Christian Landis; they moved to Windsor Township prior to 1751; five children.
- Anna Maria (1722-1774) married Ulrich Shellenberger after the death of her sister Anna Katharina in 1738; they remained in Hempfield Township; six children.

There is debate as to whether Hans’ widow was, in fact, in the entourage. The passenger manifest lists just five Stricklers: Hans Jacob Strickler, Anna Katrina, Barbara, Anna, and Ulrich Strickler. Barbara probably is Anna Barbara, but Anna could be daughter Anna Maria or Anna Heistand Strickler, the mother. Theoretically, Anna, the oldest child, and her husband could have shepherded the group without their mother. The children ranged in age from 15 to 31. The guess is that since only five people are listed on the manifest and we know about all five children in America, Mother Anna did not make the trip. After all, she was 62 years old at the time of the trip. Nothing is known about her death.

With the immigration of Hans’ five children with Anna Heistand, all eight of his surviving offspring were in America.

The children of the half-sibling immigrants also scattered: Lancaster, Fayette, York, and Westmoreland County, PA, and Virginia.

Some children of both groups who went to Fayette County then moved into the Midwest; e.g., Grundy County, IA.

STRICKLERS IN YORK COUNTY, SUMMARY

The movement of Stricklers to York County appears to be as follows:

- Conrad (1695-1771) moved to York County in 1732 or '33. He fathered three sons. One of them, Jacob, moved to Fayette County, PA, and began a Strickler line in that area.
- Ulrich (1709-1749), a half-brother of the three original immigrant brothers, moved to York County in 1742. He fathered three sons who continued the line in York County
- **Heinrich, Jr.**, (1725-1792) second son of **Heinrich**, one of the three original immigrant brothers, moved to Hellam Township in 1749, married Anna Beidler and started our York County line. The Beidler family already was in the area (See Chapter VII) on a farm on Kreutz Creek (See Note 12).
- Johannes (1722-1777), first son of **Heinrich**, one of the three original immigrant brothers, moved to Windsor Township in 1761. He had but one child, a daughter who married Abraham Hartzler. Among their six children was but one son, Jacob who fathered nine sons.

On an 1876 map of Hellam Township (See Map J), the author counted at least 14 Strickler farms and mills in the township, the majority around "Stricklerville," which the author defines as roughly the area between Strickler School Road and Strickler Lane and south of Route 462 (See Map F).

SETTLEMENTS IN YORK COUNTY

In *History of York County*, Carter & Glossbrenner, republished in 1930, the first authorized settlement in York County is described.

In the spring of 1729, John and James Hendricks, under the authority of government, made the first authorized settlements in what is now called York County. They occupied the ground from which some families of squatters had been removed, somewhere about the bank of Kreutz Creek. They were soon followed by other families, who settled at a distance of about ten or twelve miles west and southwest of them. The earliest settlers were English — these were, however, soon succeeded by vast numbers of German emigrants. Most of the German emigrants settled in the neighborhood of Kreutz Creek.

Although many of these immigrants were natives of countries other than Germany, presumably, they were considered German immigrants because they had been living in or emigrated through Germany.

The 1990 nomination form for Ulrich's Springettsbury Township farmhouse to be included in the National Registry of Historic Places notes that in 1740 the

number of taxables in York County was 600 with more than three-quarters being German. The nomination form goes on:

In 1749 when York County was established, there was almost a continuous stretch of German plantations across the county from Kreutz Creek, through York, to the banks of the Conewago. [The Conewago Creek (West) flows from Franklin Township, Adams County, to the Susquehanna River at York Haven, north of York. There is a Conewago Creek (East) in Lancaster County.] The Germans came intending that their settlements be permanent, and they proceeded in their method of clearing and improving the land. These early settlers usually continued to occupy their original possessions until death. As their families grew, they spread out and occupied more land, but they usually stayed in the same neighborhood. The 1783 Tax List records five Strickler households in this area. The 1876 Atlas shows four Strickler homesteads in the Stony Brook (Springettsbury Township) area and nine Strickler homesteads in Hellam Township. To this day, Strickler descendants populate these same areas.

In his *History of the Kreutz Creek Charge of the Reformed Church*, 1924, The Rev. Walter E. Garrett writes:

It is very interesting to know how our German ancestors looked and lived. We therefore shall continue the quotation from Glossbrenner on this point: "The early inhabitants of the Kreutz Creek region were clothed, for some years, altogether in tow (the coarse or broken part of flax or hemp) cloth as wool was an article not to be obtained. Their dress was simple, consisting of a shirt, trousers, and a frock (blouse). During the heat of summer, a shirt and trousers of tow formed the only raiment of the inhabitants. In the fall, the tow frock was superadded. When the cold of winter was before the door, and Boreas came rushing from the north, the dress was adapted to the season by increasing the number of frocks, so that in the coldest part of winter some of the sturdy settlers were wrapt in four, five and even more frocks, which were bound closely about their loins, usually with a string of the same material as the garments. But man ever progresses; and when sheep were introduced, a mixture of tow and wool was considered an article of luxury. But tow was shortly afterward succeeded by cotton and then linseywoolsey was a piece of the wildest extravagance. For some time after these early settlements were made, there was neither shoemaker nor tanner in any part of what is now York County. A supply of shoes for family use was annually obtained from Philadelphia; itinerant cobblers, traveling from one farm house to another, earned a livelihood by mending shoes. These cobblers carried with them such a quantity of leather as they thought would be wanted in the district of their temporary visit. The first settled and established shoemaker in the county was Samuel Landys, who had his shop somewhere on Kreutz Creek. The first, and for a long time, the only tailor was Valentine Heyer, who made clothes for men and women. The first blacksmith was Peter Gardner. The first schoolmaster was known by no other name than that of "Der Dicke Schulmeister."

STRICKLERS IN AMERICA TODAY

Not only did **Heinrich** begin our line, but he and his brothers, Abraham and Conrad, and his half-brothers, Ulrich and Hans Jacob, are believed to be the progenitors of all of the “true Stricklers” in America today.

However, there are some 50 Strickler families in America who are not “true Stricklers,” “pseudo-Stricklers,” if you will. They are non-Swiss immigrants whose original name had a Strickler connotation and was changed to Strickler. According to Frank Duff, Dutch families of Stricklaer, Srtijklaeer, or Strijker are among the most prominent “pseudo-Stricklers.” They first immigrated to what now is Brooklyn, NY, then a Dutch colony, in the 1600s. Another group settled in Somerset County, NJ, in the 1700s. Most of these families took the English version of their name, Stryker or Stricker. However, one family took the name Strickler. One branch of them moved to Bucks County, PA. Another moved to York County where several “Dutch Stricklers” married “true Stricklers.” The book, *Stricklers of Pennsylvania*, devotes a whole chapter, forty some pages, to the Bucks County “pseudo-Stricklers” as if they were “true Stricklers.” Other “pseudo-Stricklers” were Jewish, Strickstein; Russian, Stryklenlas; Polish, Strickowski; and Austrian, Strecklaer. All became Stricklers after their arrival in America.

So, when you meet a Strickler, before you buy him a beer, determine whether he is one of us, a descendant of Abraham, Conrad, **Heinrich**, Ulrich, or Hans Jacob, or one of the “pseudo-Stricklers.”

One source indicates that there are about 2,500 Stricklers families in America, about 8,700 individuals. The US Census Bureau says that Strickler is the 5,357th most common surname, comprising about .002 % of the population. However, it is unknown how many are “true Stricklers” and how many are “pseudo-Stricklers.” While there are Stricklers in all 50 states plus DC, Pennsylvania, no surprise, has the most, almost 400 families with just over 1,200 individuals. Rhode Island has but one Strickler while Vermont has two, one of whom is our Jim Strickler.

THE OLDEST LIVING STRICKLERS OF OUR DIRECT LINE

Grandchildren of Calvin Ruby Strickler and Harriet Mary Bursk Strickler

- Strickler, Albert Bursk, Jr., March 1, 1930, Charlottesville, VA, son of Albert Bursk Strickler
- Strickler, Daniel Bursk, Jr., December 20, 1932, New York, NY, son of Daniel Bursk Strickler
- Strickler, James Calvin, June 16, 1927, Norwich, VT, son of Jacob Harold Strickler
- Strickler, Jay Harold, November 16, 1932, Woodcreek, TX, son of Jacob Harold Strickler
- Strickler, Nancy Cupper, December 7, 1926, London, England, daughter of Daniel Bursk Strickler

Grandchildren of Susan Irene Strickler Gipe and Morgan Eugene Gipe

- Brenner, Morgan G., September 29, 1932, Havertown, PA, son of Harriet Louise Gipe Brenner
- Perks, William Townsend, III, July 9, 1941, Houston, TX, son of Clara May Gipe Perks
- Rudisill, Abram, November 2, 1933, Lancaster, PA, son of Elizabeth Gipe Rudisill
- Rudisill, James, July 18, 1928, Mount Wolf, PA, son of Elizabeth Gipe Rudisill

There are 61 living (in late 2011) direct descendents of Alfred and Lizzie, the above nine graybeards plus their children and grandchildren, scattered from Alaska to Florida and from New England to California—and points in between, plus England and Cambodia. 31 are descended from Calvin and 30 from Susie. See the Descendents Report in the Addendum.

CHAPTER II

OUR DIRECT ANCESTORS

- **HISTORIC LINEAGE**
- **THE THREE CHILDREN OF ALFRED AND LIZZIE**
- **SUMMARY**

HISTORIC LINEAGE

The following list is of each male Strickler in succeeding generations who form our direct line, beginning with Konrad, the first known Strickler of our line.

Konrad Strickler (1579-1646); often referred to as “Konrad The Persecuted”; born in the Canton of Zurich; was a leader in the Anabaptist movement; his property was confiscated in 1630, and he was imprisoned, along with his wife (who subsequently was released) in 1644; escaped but was re-imprisoned; died in Ottenbach Prison, Zurich; married Anna Landis in November, 1599, in Horgen; nine children, including

Hans Strickler (1605-1701); born and died in Hirzel; married Margretha Hitz on March 25, 1634, in Hirzel; ten children, including

Hans Jacob Strickler (1636-1688); born in Hirzel; died in Ibersheim; married Anna Katherina Asper on November 20, 1662, in Hirzel; at least three children, including

Hans Strickler (1669-1737); born in Hirzel; died in Ibersheim; buried in the Mennonite Congregational Cemetery, Ibersheim; married Elsbeth Lohrer in February, 1693, near Ibersheim; four children, including

Heinrich aHenry@ Strickler (1696-1761); born in Ibersheim; **the first of our direct ancestors to emigrate to America**; died in Hempfield Township; buried in Strickler Cemetery, West Hempfield Township; married Susanna Stouffer in February, 1724, near Ibersheim, before emigrating; ten children, including

Heinrich aHenry@ Strickler, Jr. (1725-1792); born in Ibersheim before his father emigrated; died in Hellam Township; buried in Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township; married Anna Beidler in December, 1749, in Hellam Township; seven children (See Note 13), including

Jacob C. Strickler 1755-1837); born and died in Hellam Township, probably at Rosevale; buried in Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township; married Elizabeth Miller in about 1776, in Hellam Township; nine children, including

John Strickler (1786-1836); born and died in Hellam Township, probably at Rosevale; buried in Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township; married Catherine Sherk Gerber on May 22, 1810, in York County, probably in Hellam Township; ten children, including

Jacob Strickler (1811-1892); born and died in Hellam Township, probably at Rosevale; buried in Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township; married Elizabeth Deitz on November 29, 1842, in York County, probably at Rosevale in Hellam Township; three children (second and third children, daughters, Ellen and Anna, died at the ages of four and six respectively), including

Alfred Deitz Strickler (1843-1902); born November 13, 1843, at Rosevale, died September 21, 1902, in Hellam Township, buried in Strickler cemetery, Hellam Township; married Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby (born March 17, 1845, in Hellam Township, died January 27, 1928, in Hellam Township, buried in Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township) on December 26, 1856, in Hellam Township; Alfred and Lizzie were second cousins (See Note 14); three children, Calvin Ruby, Edward Dietz, and Susan Irene.

Alfred and Lizzie lived on the family farm, Rosevale (See Chapter III).

Alfred was said to be one of the wealthiest farmers in the area. In one of his obituaries (See Chapter VI), he is referred to as "a wealthy Hellam Township farmer" and to his having retired recently. It would be interesting to know what his wealth was (See "Strickler Wealth" and "Lizzie's Interesting Estate" in Chapter XI). It may be evidenced by the wedding present houses in three consecutive years to his children. However, he apparently died intestate, and no accounting of his estate is contained in the York County Archives. It is also interesting to speculate on his wealth and status as a 59 year old retiree. What source of retirement income did he and Lizzie have? Family lore is that he was one of the first area farmers to import cattle and fatten it for the east coast market.

Following Alfred's death in 1902 (See Chapter VI), Lizzie, said to be quite an astute businesswoman, continued to live on and manage the farm. However, see "Lizzie's Interesting Estate" in Chapter XI. Family lore is that she also "played the market" while admonishing her grandchildren about their penny-ante poker games. As noted in the "Introduction," Lizzie converted to Old Order River Brethren in her 60s and became quite devout. And, even she may have enjoyed a "nip" occasionally, or, at least, she did not discourage an adult beverage by others. According to Jim Strickler, she was known to have suggested that "a little wine is good for thy stomach's sake," following, after an appropriate time interval, with "that's enough for thy stomach's sake." Note her middle initial of "S." There is no information on what it is for. Speculation is that it is for Strickler, for her mother was a Strickler. See Note 14 about Alfred and Lizzie being second cousins. In an interesting piece of irony, Lizzie was a widow for 26 years; her mother, for 16 years.

Alfred Dietz Strickler Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby Strickler
Dates of Photographs Unknown
Joseph P. Brillhart Collection



Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby Strickler with "Tricks"
Date of Photograph Unknown
James Rudisill Collection



THE THREE CHILDREN OF ALFRED AND LIZZIE

Edward Dietz Strickler, Susan Irene Strickler, Calvin Ruby Strickler
Ca. 1873

Joseph P. Brillhart Collection



The three children of Alfred and Lizzie were the first of the clan to “leave the farm” and engage in business or personal life not related to farming. All of their grandchildren and their descendants also followed non-farming careers.

Calvin apparently was the first of the family to go to college with his presumed graduation in 1885 from Eastman National Business College, (See his biographical sketch three pages following), aka as Poughkeepsie Business College--in its time supposedly THE business school--and his attendance at Millersville State Normal School, now Millersville University, near Lancaster, in the 1884-85 school year, verified by the school’s archivist. All of Calvin’s children attended college; none of Susie’s did. According to Jim Rudisill, Ed also attended Eastman National Business College. Jim believes that all three children attended either The York Collegiate Institute or The York County Academy. In spite of their own apparent relative lack of education, Alfred and Lizzie obviously encouraged and supported the education of their children.

1) Calvin Ruby Strickler (1866-1923); born November 8, 1866, at Rosevale, Hellam Township; died Jan 23, 1923, in Columbia; buried in Laurel Hill Memorial Gardens, Columbia; married on June 8, 1894, in Lancaster to Harriet “Hattie” Mary Bursk (born July 5, 1867, in Lancaster, died Feb 2, 1956, in Lancaster, buried in Laurel Hill Memorial Gardens, Columbia); resided at 329 Chestnut Street, Columbia, in a house built as a wedding present by his parents; four children: Alfred Bursk Strickler, Lt. Gen. (US Army) Daniel Bursk Strickler, Jacob Harold Strickler, and Katherine Ruby Strickler. Calvin probably was named for John Calvin who began the German Reformed Church movement which was adopted by the French Huguenots, the ancestry of his mother, Lizzie, a Ruby.

Calvin Ruby Strickler
Date of Photograph Unknown
James C. Strickler Collection



This photograph of Calvin, probably in his 40s, was taken in the front yard of his home in Columbia. In commenting on his efforts to improve the clarity of the photograph, grandson Jay Strickler said, "I could tuck his tie inside his coat, but what the hell, that's who Calvin was."

Calvin Ruby Strickler
Date of Photograph Unknown
James C. Strickler Collection



Home of Calvin Ruby Strickler Family
329 Chestnut Street, Columbia, PA
Built Ca. 1904
James C. Strickler Collection



These two photographs are of Calvin's home in Columbia after it was sold and converted to an American Legion home, the Paul Revere Leber Post #372. It was purchased by the post on July 11, 1933. In the one on the right, the second and third floors of the house have been removed (date unknown), and it appears that the brick has been cleaned or re-colored somehow—unless it's just a photography effect. It still is a Legion post.

Home of the Calvin Ruby Strickler Family
329 Chestnut Street, Columbia, PA
Built Ca. 1894

Date of Photograph Unknown
James C. Strickler Collection

September 25, 2010
Photograph by James C. Strickler



After a stint in banking, Calvin owned and operated a hardware store at 242 Locust Street, Columbia. He bought the store in September, 1902, and was operating it at his death in 1923. Grandson Jim states that family lore is that in

spite of his Eastman education, Calvin was not recognized as an especially astute businessman. According to granddaughter Nancy, Calvin was bankrupt when he died. It is not known whether the bankruptcy was business or personal, or both. Interestingly, in Hattie's scrapbook is a newspaper ad for the estate sale of the business stock, good will, and real estate. However, the sale apparently never took place, for Hattie continued to operation the business until she sold it on April 1, 1933. It is speculated that either Lizzie and/or the Bursks may have satisfied the debts to allow the business to continue. From 1923 to 1933, the store probably was managed by a long-time employee, Charlie Ross, who had been a delivery boy for the predecessor and reportedly made the last sale in the store.

Calvin's success in his banking career is reported in an excerpt from an undated article from an unknown newspaper, probably Columbia, in Hattie's scrapbook.

Changes in Bank Clerks

. . . First National Bank. Mr. Calvin R. Strickler, individual bookkeeping succeeds Mr. William H. Moore, resigned as paying teller.

An undated article from another unknown newspaper, also probably from Columbia, in Hattie's scrapbook, tells of Calvin's new venture.

Going into Business

Calvin R. Strickler, for a number of years connected with the First National Bank of this place, is now making his arrangements to go into the hardware business. He will succeed the Stoner and Hall Hardware Company, and is possessed of the push and energy to make it go. We wish him well in his new venture.

This article from *The Biographical Annals of Lancaster Co.* summarizes Calvin's career.

CALVIN R. STRICKLER, the well-known hardware merchant of Columbia, Pa., is a native of York county, this State, born in Hellam township, Nov. 8, 1866, a son of Alfred D. and Elizabeth (Ruby) Strickler. His father is a farmer by occupation and has served as school director in his district for two terms. Calvin R. is the oldest of their children, the others being Edward D., a cigar box manufacturer; and Susan, wife of Morgan E. Gipe, of the firm of Strawinski & Gipe, dry goods merchants of York.

Calvin R. Strickler traces his ancestry back to Jacob Strickler, a native of Switzerland, who, on his immigration to America, located in Hellam township, York county. His son, John Strickler, spent his entire life as an agriculturist upon the old home farm in York county. He married Susan Garber. The next in direct descent were Jacob and Elizabeth (Deitz) Strickler, the grandparents of Calvin R. They too, lived on the old homestead in York county. The grandfather was a farmer by occupation, and was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Wrightsville, of which he was a director up to the time of his

death. Calvin R. Strickler's maternal grandfather was Samuel Ruby, a native of York county, and a son of Peter Ruby, one of the pioneers of the county. There the former made his home throughout life, being engaged in farming and the operation of a mill. He was a shrewd and capable business man, and legal adviser to many. He was one of the leading Democrats of his township and served as surveyor and justice of the peace.

Reared on the home farm, Calvin R. Strickler attended the country schools during the winter until eighteen years of age, the York County Academy, York, Pa., the Millersville State Normal School and the Poughkeepsie Business College, graduating from the latter institution in February, 1885. He then came to Columbia, Pa., where he obtained a position in the First National Bank as messenger, and so capably and satisfactorily did he discharge his duties that he was promoted several times, having served as receiving teller, individual bookkeeper, and paying teller. He is a man of excellent business ability and sound judgment and has met with well-deserved success in his undertakings. He was at one time director and vice-president of the Columbia Electric Light & Power Company, and is at present director and treasurer of the East Columbia Land Company, and treasurer and director of the Columbia Flint Company. On June 8, 1894, in Lancaster, Pa., Mr. Strickler married Miss Harriet M. Bursk, by whom he has three children, namely: Alford (sic) B., Daniel B. and Jacob H. Mrs. Strickler is a native of Lancaster, where her parents, Daniel and Ellen (Widmeyer) Bursk, still reside, her father being the oldest grocer engaged in business in that city. He is an active worker in the Lutheran Church and one of the main instigators of the Young Men's Christian Association, of which he was the first president.

Mr. Strickler is a prominent and active member of the Presbyterian Church of Columbia, in which he is now serving as secretary and trustee. By his ballot, he supports the men and measures of the Republican party and takes a commendable interest in public affairs, giving his support to all enterprises which he believes calculated to prove of public benefit. He is now serving his second term as borough auditor. From *Biographical Annals of Lancaster Co., Pa*, 1903, by J. H. Beers & Co., page 964.

Author's notes on the above article:

1. This document is unedited.
2. There are errors in the heritage discussion in paragraph two. The "Jacob" mentioned in line one probably is Jacob C. who had a son, John. John's wife was Catherine Sherk Gerber, not Susan. In lines eight and nine, Samuel Ruby was the son of Johannes "John" Ruby, not Peter (See Chapter VIII).
3. The archivist at the Poughkeepsie Public Library advised that the school was The Eastman National Business College. Poughkeepsie Business College may have been a popular name. Extensive but not comprehensive records of students do not show that Calvin was a student. An 1864 *New York Times* article states that the course of studies required about three months.
4. From the date when he apparently went to the business school (1895) and the date of his marriage (1894), it appears that he and Harriet were married before he went to Poughkeepsie. However, the newspaper stories of the wedding (See Chapter XII) refer to him as a banker. Hmmm!

In these photographs of Calvin's well-stocked hardware store, the merchandise is a real nostalgia creator. That's Calvin in the doorway in the top photograph. In the bottom photograph, that's Calvin on the left with his then teen age son, Jacob Harold.

The Calvin R. Strickler Hardware Store
Ca. 1920
James C. Strickler Collection



This photograph is of the site of Calvin's store today, the double, brick two story building. His business probably occupied the section on the left.

Present Site of the Strickler Hardware Store
September 26, 2010
Photograph by James C. Strickler



Harriet “Hattie” Mary Bursk Strickler (1867-1956) was the daughter of Daniel Summy Bursk and Mary Ellen Widmayer Bursk of Lancaster. Her father was a prominent grocer with a store at 17 East King Street, Lancaster. She was the middle child of five, three of them brothers. According to grandson Jim Strickler, she was a “very strong-willed woman, a powerful matriarch who intimidated her daughters-in-law especially. She was devoted to all her children and was very family oriented, particularly on the Bursk side.” She maintained the scrapbook from which much material in this book was taken. Granddaughter Nancy states that following the death of Calvin and the subsequent sale of his hardware store and the family home, Hattie lived in the Hamilton Apartments in Lancaster, well-supported by her sons.

Harriet Mary Bursk Strickler
Dates of Photographs Unknown
James C. Strickler Collection



Harriet Mary Bursk Strickler
Date of Photograph Unknown
Lancaster New Era, February 1, 1956



Daniel Summy Bursk (Ca. 1837-1932) was born in Pennsylvania, presumably in Lancaster. He served in the Civil War as a Commissary Sergeant with the 122nd Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers from August 11, 1862, to May 15, 1863. He was a founder and the first president of the Lancaster YMCA with which he was associated for 53 years. At his death, he was president emeritus of the board of the YMCA and was active in the family wholesale sugar business (J.

H. Bursk & Co., probably founded by his son, John Howard Bursk) into which his grocery business apparently had evolved.

Daniel Summy Bursk
Date of Photograph Unknown
From *Young Men*, Volume 47



The complete line of the descendants of Calvin and Harriet can be found in the Descendants Report in the Addendum.

(2) Edward Dietz Strickler (1869-1941); "Mansion Ed"; born January 3, 1869, probably at Rosevale, in Hellam Township; died Nov 9, 1941, in Hellam Township; buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery, York; married on September 26, 1895, in Manchester Township, York County, to Anna May Kate Loucks (born Dec 31, 1871, in Manchester Township, died October 25, 1944, in York, buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery, York); resided at 85 West Market Street, Hallam, in a house built as a wedding present by his parents; no children.

Edward Dietz Strickler
Date of Photographs Unknown
James Rudisill Collection



Ed operated a cigar box manufacturing company for a time and then amassed a fortune (at that time) in real estate and securities-- in addition to "marrying money." Anna was of the affluent York County Loucks Mill family. While his obituary refers to him as a farmer, his farming probably was simply the ownership of farms that he sublet to tenant farmers. The author's mother was known to have commented that Ed's occupation was "clipping coupons"; i.e., the coupons to claim the interest on his bonds.

It is unfortunate that so little is known about Ed. It appears that he may have been somewhat of the family recalcitrant and that he and Anna were not the most friendly and hospitable members of the family.

Anna Mary Kate Loucks Strickler (1871-1944) was the daughter of Alexander W. and Catherine M. Wambaugh Loucks of York. She was one of four children. Her grandfather, Zachariah, and great uncle, Henry, were the owners of Loucks Mill, a major facility located just north of York along the Codorus Creek where the Route 30 bypass crosses.

The author regrets that no photographs of Anna nor additional biographical information about Ed and Anna has been found.

Mansion Ed's home, photograph on following page, was indeed worthy of his sobriquet. According to the architect's drawings, provided by Jim Rudisill, the first floor had cypress finish throughout plus butternut inside shutters. The first floor was surrounded by a porch on three sides with a vestibule into a center hall with the stairway. A sitting room was in the front right, behind which was the bay-windowed dining room with the pantry behind it. In the front left was the parlor behind which was the library. The kitchen was an addition in the rear to which a summer kitchen was attached. The second floor had white pine finish throughout plus the butternut inside shutters. The second floor had five chambers (bedrooms) with a drawing room between the two front ones. It opened onto a veranda. The attic had three chambers plus a store room. Ho hum!

Home of Edward Dietz Strickler
85 West Market Street, Hallam, PA
Built Ca. 1895

September 25, 2010

Photograph by the Author

The house has been converted into three apartments
For sale in 2010, the house had an asking price of \$299,900.



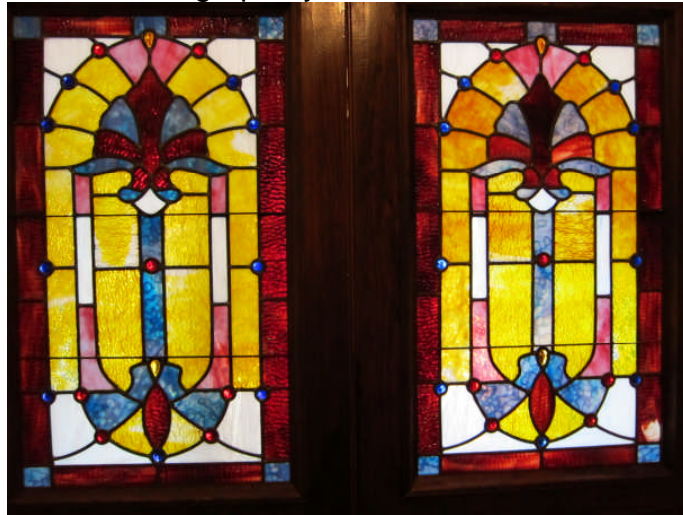
Here is a gem; the York-Wrightsville trolley is in front of Mansion Ed's little cottage on Market Street in Hallam, perhaps from the 1920s. Note the chimney on the left side of the house (in the photograph on the preceding page, it is on the right side) and what appears to be a finished area behind the dormer windows of the attic—a widow's walk? Did Ed do some remodeling?

York-Wrightsville Trolley & Mansion Ed's Home
Date of Photograph Unknown
Postcard from The Kreutz Creek Preservation Society Gift Shop



These stained glass windows are in the double doors at the entrance into the vestibule of Mansion Ed's mansion. Must be seen to be appreciated fully.

Stained Glass Windows of the Double Front Door
Home of Edward Dietz Strickler
85 West Market Street, Hallam, PA
September 25, 2010
Photograph by James C. Strickler



. **(3) Susan Irene Strickler (1871-1917)**; Susie; born December 31, 1871, probably at Rosevale, in Hellam Township; died June 16, 1917, in York; buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery, York; married on June 25, 1896, in Hellam Township, to Morgan Eugene Gipe (born April 17, 1867, in York, died on June 29, 1952, in York, buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery, York); resided at 710 South George Street, York, in a house built as a wedding present by her parents; three children, Elizabeth Gipe, Harriet Louise Gipe, and Clara May Gipe.

Susie apparently was the first Strickler woman to complete high school, graduating from the York Collegiate Institute in 1890, verified from school records. She then attended, possibly for three years, St. Agnes School for Girls, a prestigious Episcopal "finishing school" in Albany, NY, not verified from school records. Susie was the first Strickler woman to eschew the role of the traditional farm wife, marrying Morgan, a prominent interior decorator in York, and becoming an urban housewife.

While the South George Street house was being built, Morgan and Susie lived in a hotel on the northeast corner of Beaver and Market Streets in York.

Susan Irene Strickler
Date of Photograph Unknown
Norman W. Perks Collection



Susan Irene Strickler
Dates of Photographs Unknown
Norman W. Perks Collection James Rudisill Collection



Home of the Morgan Eugene Gipe Family
710 South George Street, York, PA
Built Ca. 1896

2010

Photograph by the Author

This home is now the office of an accounting firm



Morgan Eugene Gipe (1867-1952) was the son of Hollingsworth and Amanda Free Gipe. He was the middle child of nine, six of them sisters. His father was a band member in two Union civil war units and was a prominent music teacher in York. At one time, he was Director of Music of the city schools. Another son, Stuart, also was a prominent voice and piano teacher in York.

Tall and slender, Morgan was the epitome of gentility. Family members referred to him as “the last of the Victorians.” He didn’t merely tip his hat to a lady whom he met; he genuflected. Not only did he never appear at family breakfast without his coat and tie, he never appeared without them in public—even at a baseball game. And he was an avid baseball fan, introducing his grandson, the author, to the game.

In his interior decorating business (below), which he continued until his death at age 85, he catered to York’s society and money. His daughter, the author’s mother, once said that at the price of his draperies, he could just as well have sewn twenty dollar bills together. He also had a flair for the dramatic. His fabric samples, perhaps 2’x3’, were in perhaps twelve inch high piles, neatly folded, on shelves in his show room. He would deftly pull just one sample from anywhere in the pile without disturbing the others. Then, with a flourish, he would deposit it on the floor in a pyramid in front of his seated customer.

Morgan also played the bones (as in minstrel shows; you youngsters can do the research). The author recalls him playing them on one of his regular Sunday evening visits to the home of the author and his mother. However, some family members suggest that it was “spoons” that he played.

Morgan Eugene Gipe was educated in the public schools of York and at the age of 15 years, in September 1882 he entered the dry goods store of J. T. Kopp, then located in the McGrath property, Nos. 6 and 8 South George Street. Promotions followed as the business grew and in 1889 he was admitted to the partnership of the firm of J. T. Kopp & Co., taking charge of the then rapidly growing upholstering department. This partnership continued until 1895, when Mr. Kopp, its senior member, withdrew from the business and the firm of Strawinski & Gipe was formed, remaining at Nos. 6-8-10-12 South George Street, until the year 1904. In April 1904, after 22 years of continuous activity in the same location, Mr. Gipe withdrew from the firm of Strawinski & Gipe, and in the following October opened his establishment at Nos. 34 and 36 South George Street. The new business comprised a complete stock of wall papers, carpetings, rugs, hardwood floors and grilles, lace curtains and draperies and art work. This store was considered one of the handsomest establishments in the State, and reflects great credit on the city of York and vicinity. He was affiliated with the York Lodge, No. 213, B.P.O. Elks, and Codorus Council, NO. 2091, R.A. His religious connections are with St. John's Episcopal Church. He has long been active in the Merchants' Association and on February 12, 1906, was elected its president for the ensuing year, an honor that attests well to his high standing in the business world and to his worth as a citizen. He has earned the reputation of being a man of upright methods and honorable dealings, and in private life his character is above reproach. From the History of York County 1907; extracted from www.Rootsweb.ancestry.com, the website of Ken Maxwell.

Morgan Eugene Gipe
Dates of Photographs Unknown
Norman W. Perks Collection



This portrait of Morgan Eugene Gipe, then about age 73, is by Inez Dunnick Smith, a prominent artist from York. The portrait hangs in the author's living room.



The complete line of the descendants of Susie and Morgan can be found in the Descendants Report in the Addendum.

SUMMARY

In considering our York County ancestors from Heinrich to Alfred plus Lizzie, note that they cover a period of 201 years and six generations from Heinrich's arrival in America in 1727 to Lizzie's death in 1928.

Moreover, starting with Alfred and going back, there are ten generations from him to Konrad, covering 323 years from Konrad's birth in 1579 to Alfred's death in 1902. Overall, from Konrad's birth to the present (2011) is a mere 432 years of known Strickler Heritage.

And, if your great grandfather is Alfred, then Konrad is your 10th great grandfather, and, Heinrich, our direct ancestor and one of the three original immigrant brothers, is your sixth great grandfather. You younger ones can figure out your "numbers."

CHAPTER III

STRICKLER HOMESTEADS

- **WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP HOMESTEAD**
- **SPRINGGETTSBURY TOWNSHIP HOMESTEAD**
- **FORT EGYPT, VIRGINIA, HOMESTEAD**
- **ROSEVALE, OUR HELLAM TOWNSHIP HOMESTEAD**

Our Stricklers apparently liked to live in style. Although the first of the remaining Strickler homestead, built in 1742 in Springettsbury Township, was rather modest, just 1½ stories, the still-standing, but severely remodeled, house built in 1803 by Abraham's grandson, Jacob, Jr., in West Hempfield Township, Rosevale, and those built around the turn of the twentieth century by Alfred and Lizzie as wedding presents for their children, were large, multi-level dwellings. In fact, when driving through Hellam Township and seeing other Strickler dwellings, one does not see charming cottages; they are honest-to-goodness farmhouses.

WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP HOMESTEAD

The first Strickler homestead is located in West Hempfield Township south of Route 462 between South 18th Street in Columbia and Locust Grove Road, east of Oswego Drive which goes south off Route 462. On Map A, the red indicator, marked "A," indicates the general area of what was the farm. The area is now Oswego Village, an apartment complex and housing development. Originally, the farm was south of and abutted a farm that fronted on Route 462. It was owned by one Hy N. Kehler.

Abraham apparently bought the farm prior to August 19, 1725, for it is recorded that he paid taxes in Hempfield Township on 161.25 acres, identified as being on the "drains" of the Upper Little Conestoga Creek. On January 8, 1728, Abraham received the deed from one John Dougherty for the property. The disparity in dates from Abraham's first tax payment to his receiving the deed is explained by the "loose" handling of real estate transaction in those days. The immigrant Stricklers had lived on the farm since their arrival.

Apparently three houses were built at this site, the second and third probably on the foundation of their predecessors, a Swiss custom. The first house probably was built by Abraham in the late 1720s. The builder of the second house is unknown--as is the date. When Abraham moved to Virginia in 1733, he sold the farm to his kid brother, Heinrich (1696-1761). At Heinrich's death, the farm was inherited by his third born, Jacob (1730-1803) who also received two adjoining

tracts of land, one of 112 acres on "Chestnut Hill." Heinrich's will provided that his two youngest daughters could live there.

Jacob moved to Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in 1790 and sold the farm (apparently all three tracts) to his only son, Jacob, Jr. (1762-1812). Jacob, Jr., built the existing house in 1803 for his wife and then 9 children (two more were born after its completion). It is said that at the death of Jacob, Jr. the farm comprised some 3,000 acres. There apparently also was a spring house on the property. Note that Jacob, Jr., lived to enjoy his mansion but 9 years. Ownership after Jacob, Jr. is unknown.

This house can be located on Map A in the above described Oswego Village area. It is on Stone House Lane at the eastern side of its intersection with Oak Hollow Drive. Oak Hollow Drive goes east off Oswego Drive.

One might wonder why a third born son would be the inheritor of the family homestead. First born, John received "forty pounds of lawful money of Pennsylvania" and 321 acres in Hellam Township, now Lower Windsor Township. Heinrich, the father, had bought that tract in 1756. No mention is made in his will of second son, Heinrich, Jr., our direct ancestor, who had moved to York County and married Anna Beidler in 1749.

This house, originally, a stone house of expert masonry, 90 feet long and 50 feet wide contains 14 rooms, deep windows. A winding staircase leads from the kitchen to the third floor. Several open fireplaces and halls of unusual width characterize the home. A veranda, 90 feet wide and 12 feet wide extends the whole length of the east side of the home. From *The Stricklers of Pennsylvania*. The house has been converted into three apartments.

In these two photographs, the views appear to be of opposite sides of the house. Note the location of the wing on the end of the house in each photograph. The photograph on the left is of the east side while the photograph on the right is of the west side because the wing is on the south side. The photograph in the Historical Resource Form (following page) also is of the east side.

1803 Strickler Home, West Hempfield Township
Before 1942

From *Stricklers of Pennsylvania*




June, 2009

Photograph by the Author



The Pennsylvania Historic Resource Survey Form, following page, provides additional information about the house. Be sure to read paragraph 27. The continuation noted at the end of paragraph 27 is unavailable.

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM BUREAU FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026 A HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120		7. Local survey organization Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County		1. County LANCASTER	
8. property owners name and address		9. tax parcel number / other number LH #13		10. U.T.M. zone 11. status (other surveys, lists etc.) LH #13	
12. classification site () structure () object () building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in N.R. district yes () no ()		13. date(s) (how determined) 1803 14. period		15. style, design or folk type	
16. architect or engineer		17. contractor or builder		18. primary building mat./construction stone	
19. original use house		20. present use apartment		21. condition fair	
22. integrity fair		23. site plan with north arrow		2. municipality WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP 6. other name (historic name if any) Jacob Strickler House	
24. photo notation #52/1A Rebecca A. Shiffer				3. street address or specific location Oak Hollow Road, east of Oswego Drive <i>now on Shenandoah Drive</i>	
25. file/location HPT of IC		26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, environment, threats and associated buildings) 2 1/2 stories, 8 bays irregular placement of bays on front facade southern 2 bays have lower roofline - are a later addition gable roof covered with slate wooden box cornice porch across front facade 1 over 1 sash in plain wooden frames segmental arches over gable end windows rear facade stuccoed house has been unsympathetically altered barn mentioned in Lancaster's Heritage is now gone apartment complex has been developed on adjacent land (Continued) (continue on back if necessary)		4. survey code 071-60-13	
27. history, significance and/or background Now disastrously altered almost beyond recognition of its original grandeur, this stone mansion - ninety feet long - was built for the residence of Jacob Strickler in 1803. On the large gable end is a datestone inscribed "J S 1803". It is plausible that there could be an earlier element to the total structure. However, Strickler family genealogies have claimed that the entire mansion was built in 1803. Jacob Strickler (1763-1812) was a wealthy farmer, miller, cattle dealer, and publicist. (Continued) (continue on back if necessary)		28. sources of information A., J., A., & M. Strickler, Stricklers of Pennsylvania, Scottsdale, Pa., 1942-p.159, a c. 1940 photograph (Continued)		29. prepared by: Rebecca A. Shiffer John J. Snyder, Jr.	
30. 9782		revision(s)		(continue on back if necessary)	

SPRINGETTSBURY TOWNSHIP HOMESTEAD

In 1742, the second (maybe) Strickler House was built in Hellam, now Springettsbury, Township. It is not known whether it was built before or after the second house in Hempfield Township. There is debate over whether it was built by Conrad or Ulrich. Conrad did precede Ulrich to the area by about ten years, and presumably built a house. It is accepted that the two half-brothers did own adjoining farms with houses. The question is which one was whose. Most historians credit Ulrich as the builder of this house. In 1943, the farm was purchased by York County for its prison and other administrative facilities which were built in the 1980s. It can be located on Map C at the red indicator.

The following commentary, edited, is from the Nomination Form for the inclusion of the homestead in the listings of The National Registry of Historic Places. The nomination was successful. The building underwent extensive restoration and rehabilitation between 1985-1990.

The Strickler Family Farmhouse is architecturally significant in that it is one of the few surviving homes built by the first Pennsylvania German settlers of Springettsbury Township. The stone section of the farmhouse is the best local example of the Medieval Germanic architectural style, as evidenced by its steeply pitched roof with a kick to it, and by the placement of the gable end windows. Successive generations of the Strickler family added onto the original section of the house, thus enabling them to occupy the family homestead for almost 200 years. The property is important architecturally because of the high level of integrity it has maintained in its 250 year history. Many of the original features of each section of the home, including a sliding panel door, chair rail, and moldings, still survive. Unusually well exemplified in the Strickler Farmhouse is the custom of adding on to the original house by successive generations of the same family. This is an element of German culture which was brought to America by the Pennsylvania Germans who settled in this area. Often, several generations of the same family lived in the same house, adding on as needed. This custom is still observed by the Amish in Lancaster County. No other structure in this area so clearly illustrates this practice. In the mid-19th century two additions were added. The first, extending from the south façade of the main house, is a 2 ½ story brick Georgian wing built ca. 1835. A 3 x 2 bay brick ell, ca. 1865, extends from the west elevation of the brick wing. The brick wing and ell were done in such a way as to retain the integrity of the earlier limestone structure. Despite over 200 years of continuous use, the house still maintains its mid-18th century character.

OWNERSHIP HISTORY OF THE HOUSE

<u>OWNER</u>	<u>FROM-TO</u>
Ulrich Strickler (1709-1749)	1742-1749
John Strickler (1744-1777), eldest son of Ulrich	1749-1777
Henry Strickler (1746-1835), second son of Ulrich	1777-1835
John F. Strickler (1770-1850), eldest son of Henry *	1835-1850

Salome Treichler Strickler (1778-1855), widow of John F.	1850-1855
John F. Strickler, Jr. (1818-1890), second son of John F. ** ***	1855-1890
Frederick Strickler (1842-1905), eldest son of John F. Jr., and Mary Strickler (1849-1937), daughter of John F., Jr.	1890-1905
Mary Strickler (1849-1937), daughter of John F. Jr., and Amanda Hake Strickler (1852-1932), widow of Frederick	1905-1926
* First addition added in 1835	
** First son, Jacob, had died in 1821	
*** Second addition added in 1865	

Note: Following Ulrich's death, intestate, in 1749, his widow, Mary, was named administratrix and apparently held title to the property for her then minor son John until a 1771 deed transferred title to him.

In 1926, after 184 years of Strickler ownership, the homestead was sold to the neighboring Miller family where it remained until 1943 when it was sold to York County. It now is an office for the United States INS. The "next-door" York County prison houses a number of immigrant prisoners under contract with the INS.

The following three photographs, below and following page, show the original stone house plus the two later additions. It's neat! Except for the plastic Adirondack chair and the air conditioning unit. These photographs as well as that of the Strickler-Miller Cemetery (See Chapter IV) were taken after officials granted the author permission to be on the grounds of the prison complex.

Springettsbury Township Homestead

April 10, 2011

Photographs by the Author

Side View



Back View



Front View



FORT EGYPT, VIRGINIA, HOMESTEAD

Abraham left Lancaster County for Virginia in 1732 or '33 with his wife Anna Maria and six of their eventual seven children. He purchased from Jacob Stover, the Pennsylvania land promoter who was responsible for settlements in the area, 1000 acres along the Shenandoah River at Egypt Bend, near Luray in what is now Page County.

Abraham Strickler purchased 1,000 acres from Jacob Stover and his wife Margaret (part of Stover's 5,000-acre 15 December 1733 Colony of Virginia patent land) for 84 pounds on 16 December 1735 (Tract 111-L1, L2 and L3...). These three tracts were located east of Luray on U. S. Highway 211 on the west side of North River Shenandoah. Page County Highway 615 north and south from U.S. Highway 211 provides access to all three tracts. Strickler sold 100 acres of the 1,000-acre tract to Jacob Bowmer for 20 pounds on 29 July 1743 (Tract 111-L1...). From wendroot.com

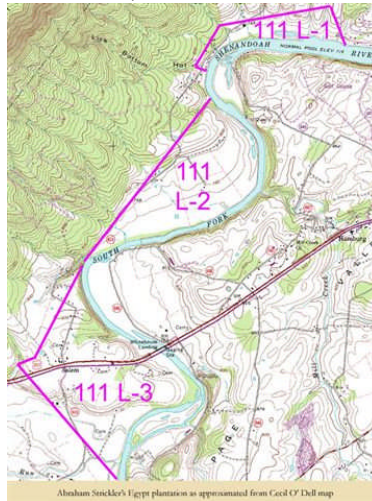
At his death in 1746, his estate settlement records three houses on the tract, the New House, the Old House, and the Springhouse.

Abraham was deceased by 14 April 1746 when Peter Ruffner was designated to serve as administrator of his estate with sureties provided by Mathias Selser and John Lionberger.

On 12 June 1747, Lord Fairfax's surveyor George Hume laid off the division of Abraham's 1,000-acre tract (purchased from Jacob Stover) for distribution among his sons. One 263-acre tract (north of U. S. Highway 211 on Page County Highway 615, Tract 111, L-2...) was shared by sons Joseph, 102 acres; Jacob, 106 acres; and Abraham II, 55 acres. A second 384-acre tract (south of U. S. Highway 211, Tract 111-L3...) was shared by sons Benjamin, 201 acres and Isaac, 183 acres. The 384-acre tract is accessible by U. S.

Highway 211 which crosses the north section and Page County Highway 615 on the west section. From wendroot.com

This map, also from wendroot.com, shows the three tracts.



Abraham's son, Jacob, inherited one fifth of his father's tract, 208 acres. Other sons apparently received the other houses and some land.

In 1757 or '58, Jacob built Fort Egypt on his inherited land. Measuring about 36' x 32', the house is of the German Flurküchenhaus architectural style characterized by two to four rooms around an off-center fireplace. Jacob's version has four rooms on the first floor—a kitchen (kuche), a parlor (stube), a chamber (kammer), and a fourth of unknown use. The second floor has the same basic floor plan. The house remains, in excellent restored, although somewhat renovated, condition. It is listed on The National Registry of Historic Places.

There is interesting speculation about the name, Egypt, in both the site and the house. It is believed that Jacob named it. He also may have named the bend. According to Frank Duff, there are seven bends in the North Fork of the Shenandoah River just like the seven bends of the Nile. Some speculate that that irony is the reason. Another theory is that Jacob responded to the Stricklers having been exiled to America like the Israelites were exiled to Egypt.

Built of 20"-25" diameter logs dovetailed at the corners, Fort Egypt has a massive stone chimney in the center of the house. It contains a fortified cellar with loop holes, possibly designed for protection against Indian attacks. No known Indian attacks occurred at Fort Egypt.

The building was built about 1758 by Jacob Strickler (one of the early leaders of the Mennonite Church), and his descendants lived here for many generations. Several of the rooms are very large and were probably used for meetings of the Mennonite Church in this community before any church buildings were built. From Wikipedia.

After Jacob Strickler's death, ca. 1784, his son John inherited the property. But, probably because of the family's Mennonite connections (the church teaches that its

members should care for each other's well-being), John and his step-mother agreed that he would take an equal share of the farm with his siblings and that she would get the customary widow's thirds. After 1787, when his step-mother remarried (to Abraham Heiston owner of the nearby Heiston-Strickler House, another of the Page County Continental houses), John Strickler occupied his father's tract. At his death in 1802, the property was divided among his siblings, who had been minors at the time of Jacob Strickler's death. Daniel Stover, a relative of the builder of Fort Stover, yet another of the nearby Page County Germanic houses, bought the 208-acre Fort Egypt tract in the ensuing years after John Strickler's estate was settled. The Stovers held the property until 1852, when it was sold to Jacob Shenk, who owned it until Jacob C. Bowers bought it in 1895. Bowers sold it a year later to Jacob C. Burner. After Burner's death in 1926, the Fort Egypt tract was sold to S. Berry Hoover, whose heirs sold it in 1979 to Paul Broome. From the Nomination Form for the inclusion of the property in the National Registry of Historic Places, February 26, 1979.

Fort Egypt (Original)
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Wikipedia



Fort Egypt (Restored)
Date of Photograph Unknown
From web.mac.com
Note the addition



ROSEVALE, OUR HELLAM TOWNSHIP HOMESTEAD

Rosevale is located on Beidler Road, just west of its intersection with Strickler School Road. The front of the house faces east. The coordinates are approximately 40°00'34.99" north and 76°33'51.51" west at an elevation of 314 feet. The farm can be located on Map F. It also can be located on Map B at the words, "J Strickler; i.e., Jacob Strickler, the owner in 1860 (just south of the "A" of "LLA"). Map I-1 locates the various buildings, etc., on the farm, and Map I-2 locates surrounding sites. It is not known who gave the farm its name, but it was known as Rosevale in 1894 as per a newspaper article about Susie hosting a reception there before Hattie's wedding.

The last Strickler occupants were Alfred and Lizzie and their three children.

It is interesting to note that Beidler Road runs east-west between Strickler School Road and Kreutz Creek, there running north. At the creek, there is a ford,

to which access recently was closed. The continuation of the road, west, from the creek to Ducktown Road is known as Pheasant Run Road.

The land for what became Rosevale may have been a wedding present (dower) from Anna Beidler's family to her and Heinrich, Jr., in 1749 or '50. However, it is doubtful that Heinrich built a home there, for in 1756 he constructed the original Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill on what now is the next farm east and probably built a home there. However, that farm may have been part of the dower.

There were two houses built on our farm, the Main House and a smaller one in the front yard, later known as the Still House, razed about 1955 or so. The Still House was the first and it served as the residence to several generations until it was converted to a distillery in the mid 1800s—after the Main House was built. While the building date and the builder of the Still House are unknown, it is likely that it was built by Heinrich, Jr.'s son, Jacob C. (1755-1837).

The Main House probably was built about 1820, as evidenced, according to Jim Rudisill, by the window formation and the double front doors. If so, its builders and first occupants were

(1) **John** Strickler (1786-1836) and his wife Catherine Sherk Gerber Strickler (1790-1876), grandparents of Alfred, followed by

(2) John's son, **Jacob** (1811-1892), and his wife Elizabeth Dietz Strickler (1819-1897), parents of Alfred, followed by

(3) Jacob's son, **Alfred Dietz Strickler** (1843-1902) and his wife Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby Strickler (1845-1928).

Lizzie continued to live on and operate the farm after Alfred's death in 1902 and until her death in 1928. According to Jim Rudisill, Lizzie slept in a second floor bedroom over the summer kitchen. From there she had a good view of the barn, for, said Jim, she was concerned about barn fires. She apparently was a good business woman who managed the operation well. Jim Strickler relates that his father and his Aunt Katherine told him that there was a tenant farmer when they were growing up (which would have been in the 19-teens) and that at harvest time, Lizzie hired mule teams and 15-20 workers to help with the harvest. He added that his father recalled the huge meals that were prepared for the hired hands—and family members.

Jim Rudisill relates that in Lizzie's later years she employed a couple, Charles and Lottie Frey, to assist her with the house. They occupied the south addition.

Lizzie's son Ed acquired the farm before or following Lizzie's death in 1928. On April 19, 1940, he sold it out of the family to York's fabled "Shoe Wizard," Mahlon N. Haines, who owned a considerable amount of farmland in eastern York County. Following his death in 1962, Rosevale was sold at a public auction on November 14, 1967, to a group of three York attorneys who apparently owned it strictly as an investment. Both subsequent owners, after Ed, allowed the house to fall into disrepair.

On August 17, 1978, it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cloney who restored it with remarkable fidelity (and dignity), maintaining much of the charm of Alfred's

and Lizzie's home, including the original window frames and sills, woodwork, and floors. The Cloneys also made some renovations which did not materially detract.

According a real estate brochure from the early 2000s, after the Cloney work, the house features 5,700 square feet of living space on four levels. The master bedroom suite is lofted to expose the stone exterior of the original home. The bath has a Japanese soaking tub. A private porch overlooks the pond. Three more bedrooms, 2 additional full baths, gourmet kitchen, 3 walk-in fireplaces, two story attached summer kitchen, finished brick-floored basement in a casual pub atmosphere are just a few of the amenities that will delight you. Note: the porch and the Summer House were earlier Strickler additions.

The brochure adds the following selling points:

- Geo-Thermal Heating
- 400 Amp Service
- Oil-Fired Fast Recovery 80m Gallon Hot Water Heater
- Custom Sylvan Plaster Pool
- All Copper Plumbing
- Slate Roof
- Original Random Pine Floors
- Beehive Squirrel Tail Oven
- Two Story Summer Kitchen
- ADT Security
- Security Lighting
- Intercom
- Central Vacuum

In about 2002 or '03, it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Rhein who further renovated it. Their efforts have been, for the most part, authentic and faithful, adding, et alia, a three car garage with an enclosed walkway to the house (both with aluminum siding), similar siding on the connection from the Summer House to the Main House, and a volleyball court in the back yard.

What would Alfred and, especially, Lizzie say if they could see it now!

It is not known how many acres Rosevale contained in its heyday. A look at Map F provides an indication of the possibilities. The acreage of the current owners extends all the way north to Route 462. Originally, the farm may have reached to or even crossed Strickler School Road to the east, and it could have reached north-flowing Kreutz Creek to the west. According to Jim Rudisill, it extended south past east-flowing Kreutz Creek and part way up the side of Mt. Pisgah.

In a sales brochure for the farm from the early 2000s, the asking price: the house on ten acres for \$880,000, on 57 acres for \$1,350,000, and on 126 acres for \$1,950,000. And, in 1870, (See "Strickler Wealth", Chapter XI), the farm was valued at \$32,300! And the acreage probably was even greater then.

Here is one's first view of Rosevale, looking west---from the top of a little knoll on Beidler Road just after turning west off Strickler School Road. It does kinda hit you!

Rosevale from the East
September 25, 2010
Photograph by the Author



And, when you get closer, this is what you see, looking south—also from Beidler Road. Note the main barn to the left of the house, the farm pond behind the house, the large tree on the left, and the spring house (Lizzie’s Frigidaire) at the tree.

Rosevale
September 25, 2010
Photograph by the Author



Here is an enlargement of the spring house. The entrance to it apparently is down the bank on the right (south) side. In the photograph on the right, the little building on the left was moved there from the back of the main house by the Rheins. Its role then or now is unknown. It just happened to fit in the foundation that had remained from an earlier structure of unknown use

Spring House at Rosevale
June 13, 2011
Photographs by the Author



And here is the somewhat modernized, with fountain, pond in the front yard, looking east. Note the horse in the pasture.

Farm Pond at Rosevale
June 13, 2011
Photograph by the Author



After you park beside the barn and walk around to the front yard, this is what you see. The brick addition on the left (south) side of the house is from the 1860s, probably built by Alfred's father, Jacob. Notice how well the roof line was maintained and notice the addition of the dormer window to maintain the symmetry. Note the garage and an enclosed walkway to the left of the brick addition, built by the Rheins. And, there are three chimneys, the third hidden behind the far left dormer. Note the two front doors. This house is said to be a classic example of the "double front door" design.

The Main House at Rosevale
September 25, 2010
Photograph by the Author



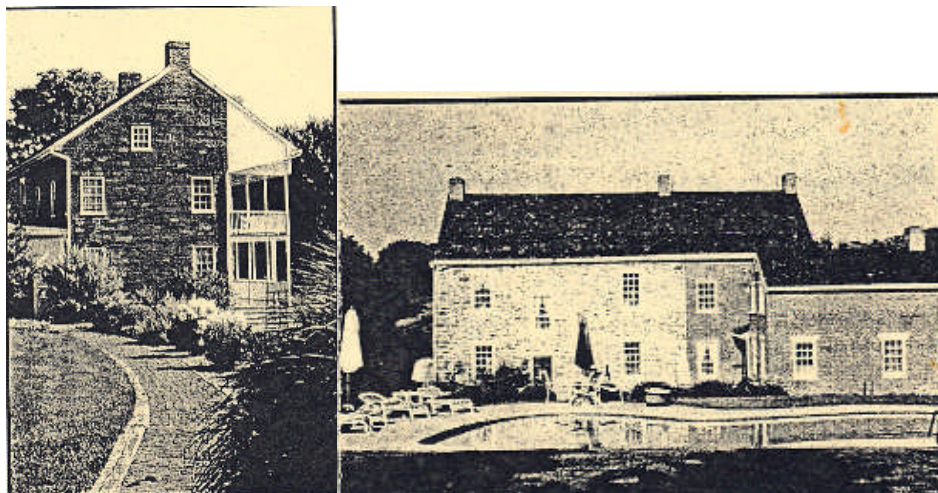
This photograph, taken on Beidler Road at the northwest corner of the property, at the entrance to the driveway, shows the back of the house with the two-story brick summer kitchen, the passageway between the house and the kitchen, the three car garage (the gray attachment to the summer kitchen), and the swimming pool. The small gray building, perhaps a cabana, is a recent addition. The man barn and the carriage barn are in the background to the right.

The Main House at Rosevale
June 13, 2011
Photograph by James C. Strickler



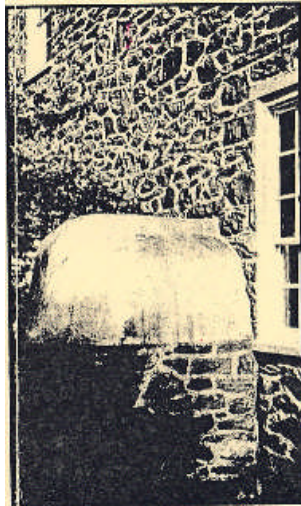
The photograph on the left is a view of the south end of the house while the photograph on the right is a view of the rear with the summer kitchen on the far right. And the swimming pool and patio! The volleyball court is a bit to the south (right) of the spot from where the photograph was taken.

The Main House at Rosevale
Ca. 2000
From Realtor's Sales Brochure



This bee hive oven with the squirrel tail flue (across the top), is on the north wall of the house. It was rebuilt by Dick Cloney after he found the foundation during his renovation/restoration.

Bee Hive Oven of the Main House
Ca. 2000
From Realtor's Sales Brochure



This ruby transom window over one of the two front doors is said to have been installed by Alfred when he married Lizzie. One might wonder if the color was chosen because Lizzie was Elizabeth S. Ruby Strickler.

Front Door of the Main House
September 25, 2010
Photograph by James Calvin Strickler



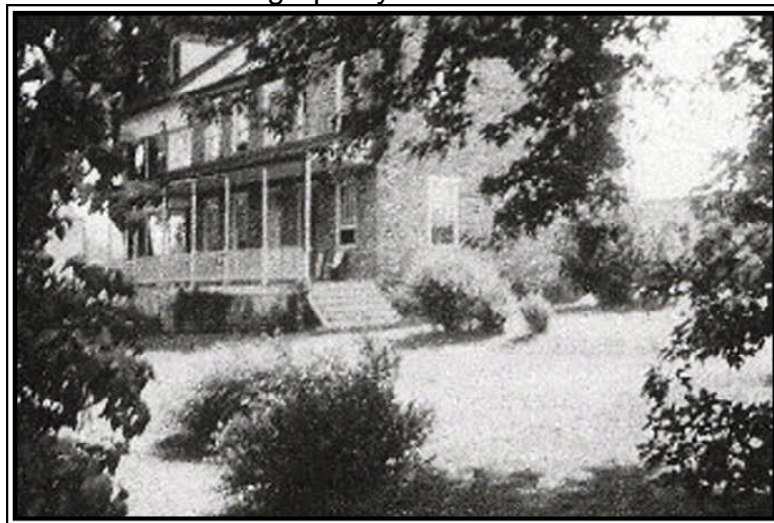
These photographs are current interior views. On the left is a portion of the family room in the cellar of the Main House (just look at those walls!). On the right is the first floor fireplace in the Summer House. Of course, Alfred and Lizzie probably didn't have the stove, and it is doubtful there were wooden doors on the fireplace. The stairs lead to the second floor. That's Mrs. Rhein in the photograph on the right.

Cellar of the Main House First Floor Fireplace of the Summer House
September 25, 2010
Photographs by James C. Strickler



And now for some history. In this photograph, notice the steps coming off the right side of the porch; they are not in the next photograph--unless they are hidden by the truck. But they are in the 2010 photograph, earlier. Perhaps they were victims of the "disrepair years" between Lizzie's death and the Cloney era.

The Main House at Rosevale
Ca. 1955
Photograph by James Rudisill



This photograph, similar to the second one in this section and some 18 years more recent than the one on the preceding page but still during the “disrepair years,” also was taken from Beidler Road. In an enlargement, one can see several broken windows. Where are the steps? Hidden behind the truck? The carriage barn is behind the tree at the back left corner of the house, and the spring house is in the left foreground. The small white building in front of the carriage barn is the house trailer in which the caretaker lived (See “Alfred’s Grinding Wheel” in Chapter XI). In the foreground, running to the left from the pile of rocks in the lower right corner is the stream that runs through the spring house and then feeds the pond.

Rosevale
1973

Photograph by James C. Strickler



In this photograph, the Summer House is behind the Main House, to the south. Note that there is no connecting passageway. The use of the small building on the left is unknown. The small white building in the middle possibly is the smoke house.

Summer House and Main House at Rosevale
Ca. 1955

Photographs by James Rudisill



Here is the Still House, the back view, after conversion from its residential use. The small white building at the left is the privy, which presumably served both the Still House residents and, later, the Main House residents. The use of the white building to the right is unknown, although it appears to be some type of storage facility. The front of the house faced north.

Still House at Rosevale
Ca. 1955
Photograph by James Rudisill



This photograph shows that the Still House was built to the left, south, of the spring house, facing north. It was east of where the Main House eventually would be. The main barn is in the upper right corner. The purpose of the little building at the bottom left is unknown. The small white building, far right in the photograph on the preceding page, to the left of the Still House probably was for storage.

Still House and Spring House at Rosevale
Ca. 1955

Photograph by James Rudisill



And here is the Still House, on the right. The little white building in front of the Still House is the privy, and the spring house is in the rear. The walkway connected the Main House, after it was built, and the Still House

Still House at Rosevale
Ca. 1955

Photograph by James Rudisill



And now, the farm buildings. The top photograph of the barn which pre-dates the main house. The original siding is attached with rose-headed nails. The side faces north. Notice how well the photograph fits the description which follows the photographs. That's the author on the left in the foreground with Jim Rudisill. At the top of the hill is Joe Brillhart with Mrs. Rhein. The close-up photograph at the bottom shows the decorative full and half-moon cut-outs at the top. Notice the foundation/lower level!

Main Barn at Rosevale
September 25, 2010 June 13, 2011
Photographs by James C. Strickler



Here is a nice semi-aerial view of the main barn and the east side corral taken from the top of the hillside east pasture. The tobacco barn was in the grove of trees to the left. The lower level of the barn originally housed cows, but during a June, 2011, visit to Rosevale, several horses were in the corral, and several more were in the hillside east pasture, foreground. Note that the corral fence is wood on the north and south sides and stone on the east side.

Main Barn at Rosevale
September 25, 2010
Photograph by James C. Strickler



The 90' x 50' barn, known as a Sweitzer or Pennsylvania Barn, is original. According to Answers.com, such barns were built in the 18th and 19th centuries by German immigrants.

The term Sweitzer or Switzer refers to the style brought here by Swiss German immigrants, who found a climate and terrain in this part of Pennsylvania not unlike that of their homeland. According to *The Pennsylvania Barn* (1955), "the Pennsylvania Barn was the greatest contribution to regional American architecture in the Eighteenth Century." It is a two-level building, with the second level projecting over the first level (the forebay) and was most often built on a hillside or embankment with a ramp to access the rear of the second level. The first level gave warm shelter to animals housed there; the second level was used for grain and hay storage and threshing. From *Hellam Township Website*.

The Sweitzer barn also is characterized by a shingled gambrel or gable roof .It is believed that Rosevale's has a replacement tin roof.

The carriage barn, barely visible in the first photograph in this section, presumably is where Alfred (and his ancestors?) kept the buggys and carts. Notice the corn cribs on both sides, (the ventilated siding). In the photograph on the right, note the openings in the foundation. Jim Strickler suggests that they might have served as a storage facility for firewood--or, perhaps, they had something to do with the corn cribs. The driveway comes in from Beidler Road, runs behind the Main House, and swings around the Carriage Barn into a parking area beside the main barn.

Carriage Barn at Rosevale
September 25, 2010
Photographs by James C. Strickler



It is known that Alfred and Lizzie had a tenant farmer; how many preceding owners had one is unknown. These remains of the tenant farmer's house are located just south of the main barn. It is believed to have been a wooden bungalow.

Remains of Tenant Farmer's House at Rosevale
June 13, 2011
Photograph by the Author



The tobacco barn (since razed) was south of (directly behind) the main barn. Its building date is unknown. Jim Rudisill states that his mother told him that the stone for the foundation was blasted from a quarry on the farm, south of Route 462.

Foundation of Tobacco Barn at Rosevale
June 13, 2011
Photograph by the Author



A gentle Kreutz Creek flows east past Rosevale along the edge of the south pasture. Can you see Calvin, Ed, and Susie swinging from the branches of the trees into the water on a hot summer day? A recent rain had muddied its waters.

Kreutz Creek at Rosevale
June 13, 2011
Photograph by the Author



Thank goodness for the Cloneys and the Rheins; Rosevale remains for us, our children, and our children's children to appreciate.

CHAPTER IV

STRICKLER CEMETERIES

- **STRICKLER CEMETERY, WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP**
- **STRICKLER CEMETERY, HELLAM TOWNSHIP**
- **STRICKLER-MILLER CEMETERY, SPRINGGETTSBURY TOWNSHIP**
- **OTHER STRICKLER CEMETERIES**

Three Strickler cemeteries that involve our clan, directly or indirectly, are known to exist in York and Lancaster Counties. All three began as “family plot” cemeteries on a family farm and expanded to accommodate the burials of “extended families.” Not all Stricklers are interred in a Strickler cemetery; e.g., many female Stricklers are buried in the family cemetery of their husband. Later generations tended to use “commercial” cemeteries. The cemetery in which many of our Stricklers are interred is included in the Descendant Report in the Addendum.

STRICKLER CEMETERY WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP

The oldest of our Strickler cemeteries is located on what was the original farm of Abraham Strickler in what is now West Hempfield Township. In it are buried Heinrich Strickler, our original immigrant, as well as other immigrants and later descendants who did not move from the area.

It is located within Oswego Village (See Map A) on Oak Hollow Road, just after it goes east off Oswego Drive. On the map, it is the small square on the south side of Oak Hollow Road, just under and to the left of the “O” in Oak Hollow Road.

The cemetery, perhaps 50' X 50', is within a three-foot high restored stone wall with an iron gate as the entrance on Oak Hollow Road. A 12' high marble monument with the name “Strickler” carved on the bottom front is immediately inside the front gate. On the four sides of the monument are the names, and for many, the year of birth/death for 35 of the interments.

Within the cemetery, there are 31 standing head stones plus three or four small in-ground “block” stones. The head stones are more or less in five rows to the left center of the cemetery. 20 head stones in various degrees of degeneration are leaning against three of the four walls for a total of about 51 interments. Virtually all of the stones are unreadable.

In June, 2009, a maintenance worker at the apartment complex office told the author that sometime between 1995 and 2000, the cemetery was in disrepair, especially the walls. Township officials required that it be repaired or removed. George M. Leader, a York County native and Governor of Pennsylvania from 1955-1959, and his wife, the former Mary Jane Strickler, arranged for the repair of the walls and provided the monument, below. See the Leader entry in Chapter XI.

According to *The Strickers of Pennsylvania*, there are graves of slaves in this cemetery. This supposition has been verified in a website "Afrolumens Project," accessed through the website of The Conestoga Area Historical Society. This site lists slaves owned by Lancaster County residents, apparently between 1779 and 1863. Jacob Strickler is listed as owning a slave named Clary. Presumably this is Jacob (1730-1803), one of the sons of Heinrich who was one of the three original immigrant brothers, and a resident of West Hempfield Township until he moved to Fayette County in 1790. A Sarah Strickler is listed as owning slaves named Penny and Sabrina. Presumably this is Sarah (1763-1827), probably the wife of Jacob's son, Jacob, Jr., (1762-1812), also residents of West Hempfield Township. It is not known whether these slaves were black or Caucasian.

Strickler Monument at Strickler Cemetery, West Hempfield Township
June, 2009

Photograph by the Author



Strickler Cemetery, West Hempfield Township
June, 2009

Photographs by the Author
These are two separate photographs



STRICKLER CEMETERY HELLAM TOWNSHIP

The second Strickler cemetery is on the site of an unknown Strickler farm in Hellam Township. It can be located on Map F. The cemetery is located near the southeast corner of the intersection of Route 462 and Strickler Lane. It is about 100 yards south of Route 462, behind a red brick farm house and an additional white frame newer building to its rear. The site is about two miles west of Wrightsville. Here most of our Hellam Township Stricklers are buried.

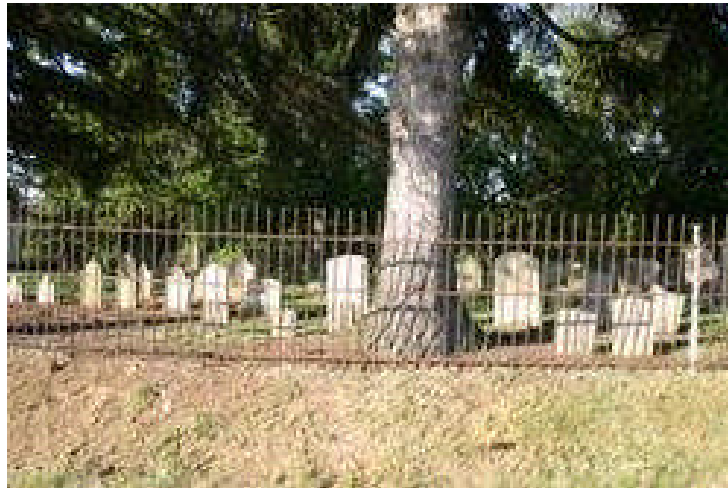
This tidy little tree shrouded family burial ground is still in use, having received an interment as recently as 2010. It is surrounded by a gated wrought iron fence on the west and by stone walls on the other three sides. Most of the stones are upright, intact, and somewhat readable. The "FindAGrave" website lists 60 interments while other sources claim 70.

The cemetery has been maintained for a number of years on a volunteer basis by Charles Keeney, Jr., a 77 year old (in 2011) resident of Hallam. The ownership of the cemetery is unknown.

Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township
June, 2009
Photograph by the Author



Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township
Date of Photograph Unknown
Source Unknown



Alfred Dietz Strickler Grave
Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township
June, 2009
Photograph by the Author



Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby Strickler Grave
Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township
June, 2009
Photograph by the Author



It has been claimed by some sources that this cemetery was begun by Abraham Flory (1717-1777), another Swiss immigrant, who arrived in Hellam Township about 1743. His farm is said to have been all of the land between Bair's Mill Road and Strickler Lane. On Map F, that area is the green wooded expanse between the two roads and south of Route 462. Thus, the cemetery is on what would have been Flory's land. His original house is the first one south of Route 462 on Bair's Mill Road. Abraham (buried in 1777) is among a number of Florys who are buried there. The claim may be valid, for Heinrich, Jr., apparently the first

adult Strickler to be buried there, did not die until 1792. A grandson of Abraham Flory married a Strickler; thus, there is a family relationship.

STRICKLER-MILLER CEMETERY SPRINGETTSBURY TOWNSHIP

The Springettsbury Township Homestead, now the location of the York County Prison, is the site of the third Strickler cemetery, known as Strickler-Miller Cemetery. The name Miller was added to the name apparently because several members of a neighboring Miller family (who later bought the farm), apparently unrelated to us, are buried there. It can be located on Map C at the indicator. Originally a part of the farm, it now is separated from the farmhouse by a prison road. Ulrich and Conrad and many of their descendants are buried there. The cemetery is inactive, but contains at least 43 interments ("FindAGrave" website), perhaps as many as 150. It is maintained by York County. When the county bought the farm, covenants prohibited the county from destroying or materially altering the cemetery and the nearby house which are listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

It is important to include the family cemetery in this nomination, as it is an integral part of the representative example of a once-thriving Central Pennsylvania farm. The family cemetery is significant in that it illustrates the early settlement patterns of the Pennsylvania Germans. The family, having made a commitment to their farm during their lifetimes, wished to be buried on the same land. Several generations of the Strickler and Miller families are buried in the cemetery, adjacent to the farmhouse. There are approximately 150 family members buried here. At least eight gravestones remain from the 1700s; the earliest dating back to 1771. Fifteen stones remain which are inscribed in High German. As many stones are broken and unreadable, these estimates probably are low. Several ornately carved stones are an excellent example of early Pennsylvania German folk art. Also, the cemetery is surrounded by a cast-iron fence made by Variety Iron Works, York, Pennsylvania. This iron works was in existence from 1840-1940, but it was only known as Variety Iron Works from 1840-1853. This means that the fence probably was added while John Strickler and his family occupied the house from c. 1835-1850. The fence is mentioned in John Strickler, Jr.'s 1884 will where he ??? the family farm to his children Frederick and Mary, except for 54 perches of land where the family cemetery was, along with a \$3.00 fee for upkeep of the fence. From the Nomination Form for the inclusion of the Strickler Family Homestead in the National Registry of Historic Places, Unedited

In the photograph on the left, the stone building in the background is Ulrich's original farmhouse (See Chapter III). In the photograph on the right, the prison can be seen in the background

Strickler-Miller Cemetery, Springettsbury Township
Date of Photograph Unknown April 10, 2011
From "FindAGrave" Website Photograph by the Author



. The statement in the above Nomination Form about families having made a commitment to their farm and wishing to be buried there certainly is a logical and reasonable explanation for the many family cemeteries that seem to abound throughout the country. Of course, it also may be that private and "municipal cemeteries are relatively "modern."

OTHER STRICKLER CEMETERIES

It is speculated that there may have been three additional Strickler cemeteries of unknown location in Hellam Township—one plowed under, one lost to development, and another just plain lost. Since there are many Hellam Township Stricklers whose burial site is unknown, this speculation may be more than just speculation.

The one lost to development may be the one on the Mahlon Haines farm (him again) at the southwest area of Route 462 and Haines Road in Springettsbury Township, York County, now the Fayfield neighborhood (See map C). It had been a Strickler farm (whose is unknown; perhaps it was owned at one time by a Ulrich Strickler who died in 1861). The interments are believed to have been transferred to the Mt. Rose Cemetery in York, but cemetery officials have no records.

There also is a Strickler Cemetery in Clarence, Erie County, NY, near Buffalo. Ulrich Strickler, a grandson of Ulrich of Springettsbury Township, is buried there along with a number of his descendants. The younger Ulrich apparently moved to the Buffalo, NY, area in the later 1700s. There is a plethora of Strickler cemeteries in western Virginia for the descendents of Abraham. Frank Duff estimates that

within five miles of Fort Egypt (See Chapter III) there are 35-40 Strickler-related cemeteries, 12-14 on or immediately adjacent to the original tract.

And, there are Strickler cemeteries in Fayette, Cumberland, and Dauphin Counties, PA, the Grundy, IA, area, Sullivan County, TN, probably in Indiana, and who knows where else.

CHAPTER V

STRICKLER MILLS

- **HOW A GRIST MILL WORKS**
- **STRICKLER'S/DIETZ'S/BAIR'S MILL**
- **STRICKLER'S/SPRENKLE'S MILL**
- **STRICKLER'S UPPER MILL**
- **A FOURTH STRICKLER MILL?**

Historically, the Stricklers were farmers. However, once in America, some of them added grist, flour, and/or saw mills to their farming operations, with the milling becoming the predominate activity and continuing for several generations. Milling was a major industry in York County. Grant Voaden, deceased, a retired hydraulic engineer with the famed S. Morgan Smith Company, compiled a study of 271 of them, at least 18 of which were in Hellam Township.

At least one Strickler added a distillery to his mill: probably Jacob of Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill. And there was a distillery at Rosevale. The distilleries were part of a burgeoning industry that in 1810 had 60 in operation in Hellam Township. Farmers found that selling whiskey in Baltimore was more profitable than selling just the grain. Rye whiskey apparently was the most commonly produced variety.

Two (perhaps four) Strickler mills are known to have operated in Hellam Township.

HOW A GRIST MILL WORKS

Grist is grain that has been separated from its chaff in preparation for grinding. A grist mill provides the farmer with a means of converting the grain that he grew on his farm into flour or meal that can be sold at market.

To operate the mill, the miller places the grain to be ground in the funnel like hopper above his pair of millstones, after first taking his toll. Then he opens the sluice gate that lets water into his water wheel. As the weight of the falling water turns the water wheel, large gears turning smaller gears make the shaft turn faster, much as the large gear on the pedals of a bicycle will turn the smaller gear on the wheel more rapidly. This power is transmitted to a vertical spindle, upon which rests a large, flat disc of stone, often weighing a ton or more. This stone spins just above, but not quite touching, an identical stone set stationary in the floor of the mill. Both stones have a pattern of grooves cut into their faces. As one stone turns above the other, their grooves cross much like scissor blades. Grain falling through the hole, or "eye," in the runner stone is cut apart as it passes between the two stones. The

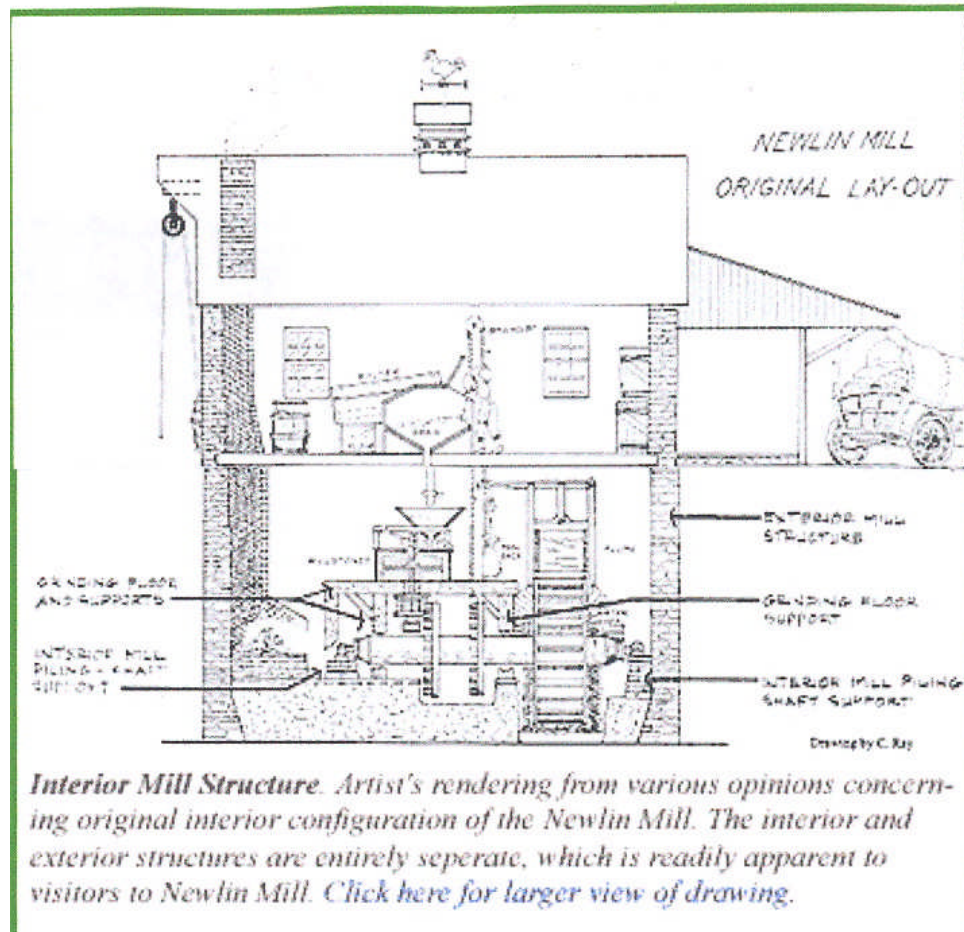
miller can adjust the distance between the two stones to regulate how finely the grain is ground. The milled grain moves around the cover that is over the stones, until it falls through a hole into the metal chest. From there it can be scooped up in a sack to be taken home for baking. From www.verndalemn.com.

The “toll” above, line 2, was the miller’s share of the grain which he retained as compensation for his work. He would later grind it and sell it.

Below is a schematic of the operation of Newlin’s Mill, a restored operating grist mill in Delaware County, PA. It may be comparable to the operation of the various Strickler mills.

To clarify the diagram, following are transcriptions of the labels: left side, upper, “Grinding Plate and Supports”; lower, “Interior Mill Pilings & Shaft Support”; right side, upper, “Exterior Mill Structure”; middle, “Grinding Floor Support”; lower, “Interior Mill Piling Shaft Support.”

From www.newlingristmill.org/millzone/article.html



The millstones can be from one to five feet in diameter.

STRICKLER'S/DIETZ'S/BAIR'S MILL

There have been two mills at the site of the existing Bair's Mill, located on Bair's Mill Road where it crosses Kreutz Creek. The site can be located on Map F. The mill is on the northwest corner of Bair's Mill Road where it turns west to go over the creek which is flowing south.

The first mill was a wooden structure that was located at a wooden dam slightly up-creek from the existing concrete dam which is behind, north, of the existing mill. It was built about 1735, supposedly the first mill in York County. The builder of this mill, presumed to have been a Strickler, is unknown. It was not, as some sources suggest, Ulrich, half-brother of the three original immigrant brothers. However, it is accepted that it was operated at one time by John Black Strickler (1813-1909), a great grandson of our Heinrich, Jr. and then by his son William Oscar Strickler (1841-1902). The mill was partially destroyed by fire in 1897 or '98 and was razed in the early 1900s. It had a wooden overshot wheel and was a grist, flour, and saw mill. The remains of the foundation are to the rear of the existing mill. The original wooden dam was about ten feet to the left, behind, the existing dam which was constructed by Woodrow W. Bair in 1946. The mill is to the right.

The area is listed in the National Registry of Historic Places as Strickler's (Bair's) Mill Rural Historic Area.

Remaining Foundation of the Original Strickler's Mill at Bair's Mill
April 10, 2011
Photograph by the Author



In 1878 **William Oscar Strickler** (1841-1902) built the existing 40' X 50' 3½ story mill, while the original mill was still in operation. A date stone near the top of the south side of the mill reads, "Built by Wm Strickler 1878." It can be seen, the small white rectangle under the eaves, in the photograph in the left on the following page. His obituary notes that "he continued the family tradition at the old Strickler mill built and operated by the Strickler Family since their settlement in Hellam Twp." However, as noted above, the specific ancestors are unknown.

The new mill subsequently was owned by **George W. Dietz** (1854-1927) who was married to William Oscar Strickler's daughter, Ellen, and then by George's son, **Calvin Strickler Dietz** (1885-?). In 1946, it was purchased from the Dietz family by **Woodrow W. Bair**. The last owner/operator was the late **James F. Bair** in 1991. It is now used by Jim's brother, Tom, as a storage facility for his adjacent farm.

Bair's Mill
Date of Photograph Unknown
From MillPictures.com



Shed at Bair's Mill
June 12, 2011
Photograph by the Author



In a conversation with the author on April 10, 2011, Jim Bair described how as a teen-age employee in the 1950s, he unloaded the grain from the farmers' trucks. The roofed, open front shed in the photograph on the preceding page had a raised receptacle bin attached to the right side wall. The farmer drove his truck into the shed, and Jim shoveled the grain from the truck into the bin from which it was pushed into the mill through the roofed door on the left side wall of the mill by an auger in an enclosed elevated trough that ran between the shed and the mill. He

added that after each truck load he would run down to the creek behind the dam and take a dip to wash the grain off him.

This photograph of the “inner workings” of Bair’s Mill was taken through a broken window in the back of the mill. Refer to the diagram at the start of this chapter. One set of its original mill grindstones (not shown), of the French buhr variety, is still in the mill; another is in the Smithsonian Institute

Bair’s Mill Turbine
June 13, 2011
Photograph by James C. Strickler



This house apparently was built sometime around 1870. It now is occupied by the Tom Bair family. It is directly across Bair’s Mill Road from the mill. Tom is the brother of Jim Bair.

Home of William Oscar Strickler at Bair’s Mill
April 10, 2011
Photograph by the Author



STRICKLER'S/SPRENKLE'S MILL

Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill apparently was an overshot mill with a waterwheel on the side of the building powered by three vertical turbines parallel to the flow of the water coming into the mill. A combination flour, cider, and saw mill, it was of brick construction, three stories plus an attic. Commentary on the exact location of the mill is at the end of this section.

The apparent ownership chronology of the mill follows:

(1) Heinrich Strickler, Jr. (1725-1792), built the mill sometime after November 1, 1756 when his father bought 321 acres for the construction site. It apparently was in operation in 1761, for Heinrich, Jr. was taxed on it.

(2) Henry Strickler (1750-1816), a son of Heinrich, Jr. and a grandson of Heinrich, the immigrant, inherited the mill from his father. When Henry moved to Clayhill, Antrim Township, Franklin County, in 1807, he sold the farm and the mill to his brother **(3) Jacob C.** (1755-1837), our direct ancestor.

At Jacob C.'s death, the mill was inherited by his oldest son, **(4) Joseph** (1785-1852); and it left our direct line, for Joseph was the older brother of John who was our direct line. Joseph was age 52 when his father died, and it might be assumed that he worked in the mill for his father. Jacob C.'s will makes the specific bequest of the mill to his son.

There was a distillery at or near the mill (the builder is unknown), for in his will, Jacob C. bequeathed it to his son, Jacob, Jr., his third born son. The second born son, John, had died in 1836, a year before his father's death.

At Joseph's death, the mill was inherited by his eldest son, **(5), Joseph, Jr.** (1813-1891). He was 39 years old when his father died, and it might be assumed that he worked at the mill for his father.

Either at the death of Joseph, Jr. or before, the mill was acquired by his daughter, **(6) Matilda May** (1848-1914). Joseph, Jr., had three children, two of whom died in infancy, leaving Matilda as the sole heir, his wife having predeceased him some 40 years previous.

At the time of her father's death, Matilda was married to **(7) Abraham Baer Sprenkle** (1846-1926) who had gone to work in the mill at age 22. The marriage occurred in 1873. It is possible that Matilda was given the mill as a wedding present or that her father, Joseph, Jr., retired and gave the mill to his daughter for his well-experienced son-in-law to operate, for on an 1876 Hellam Township map, the mill is listed as the A. B. Sprenkle Mill. In addition, the 1902 newspaper accounts of the death of Alfred Dietz Strickler refer to it as Sprenkle's Mill. Joseph, Jr., apparently died intestate in February, 1891. In November of that year, Matilda transferred ownership to her husband. Abraham made many improvements: a saw mill, cider press, a tobacco shed, and a forty pound roller process mill.

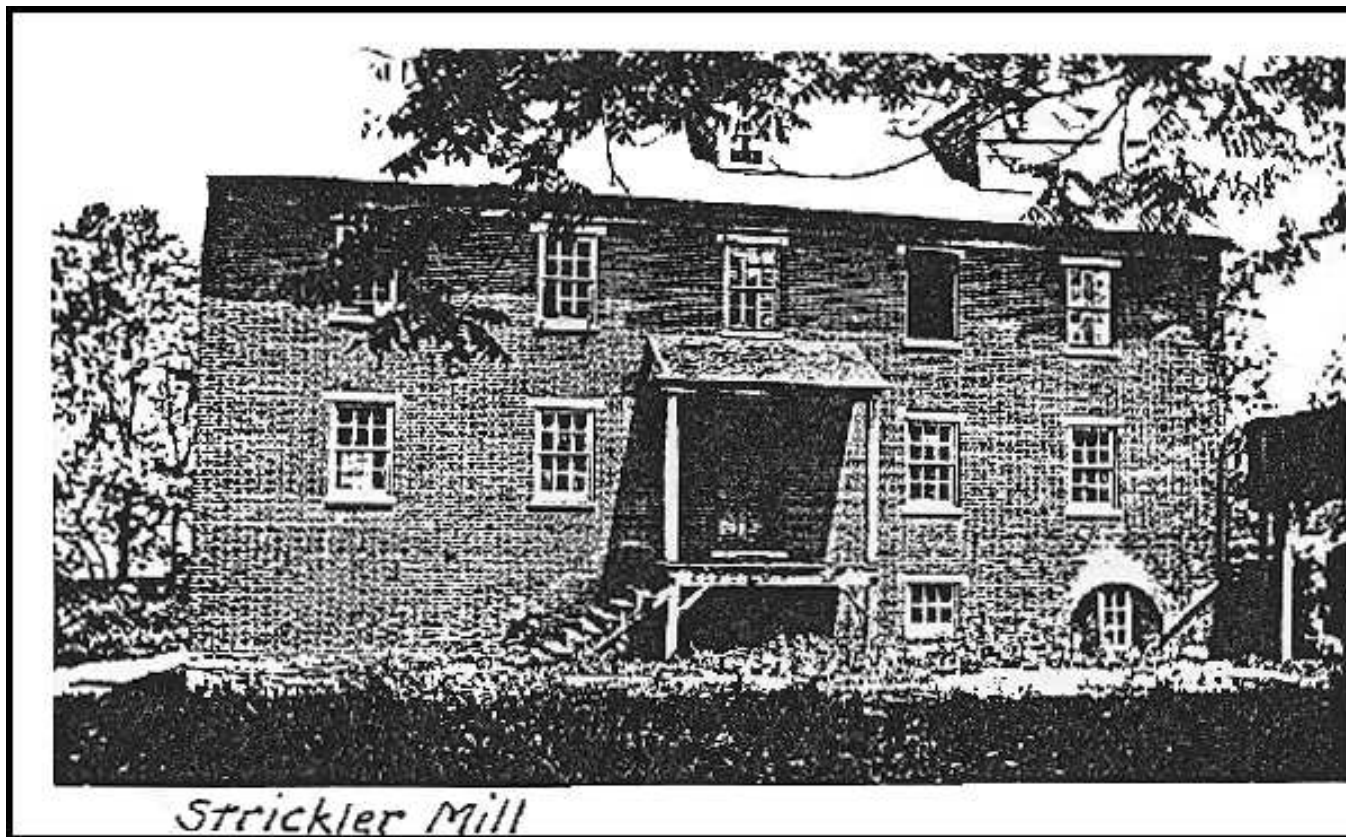
Abraham retired sometime prior to 1924 and sold (apparently) the mill to his son **(8) Elwood Oram Sprenkle**, who operated it until his death at age 48 in 1924, predeceasing his father. The mill was razed in 1932. Beams, the brick, and the

stone were used for houses in the area, notably the Ralph Fisher home on Route 462.

In summary, it appears that Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill survived at least eight owners in six generations over about 168 years.

This photograph is of the three-story brick mill. A calculation, based on the assumption that a window is about three feet wide, indicates that the building was about 54 feet wide. A good guess is that the view is of the north façade, the creek being behind the mill and to its own right. The structure at the right front corner is unknown.

Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill
Date of Photograph Unknown
James Rudisill Collection



In the photograph on the left, the stone wall is believed to be a portion of the foundation of the mill which would have been in what is now the grove of trees behind the wall. Note the trees in the photograph on the preceding page. Both of the photographs show that Kreutz Creek is not now, and probably never was, just a gently meandering little stream. At the site of the dam, it is a good fifty feet wide. This dam is located south of the intersection of Strickler School Road and Strickler Lane, and north of Laurel Road (not identified on the map) just west of where the east flowing creek makes a dog leg to the north (See Map F). Note the big tree!

Dam at Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill

April 10, 2011

Photographs by the Author



In this photograph, it appears that the man is standing on a floor or such at the top of the wall which apparently does not exist in the photograph above, left.

Foundation of Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill (?)

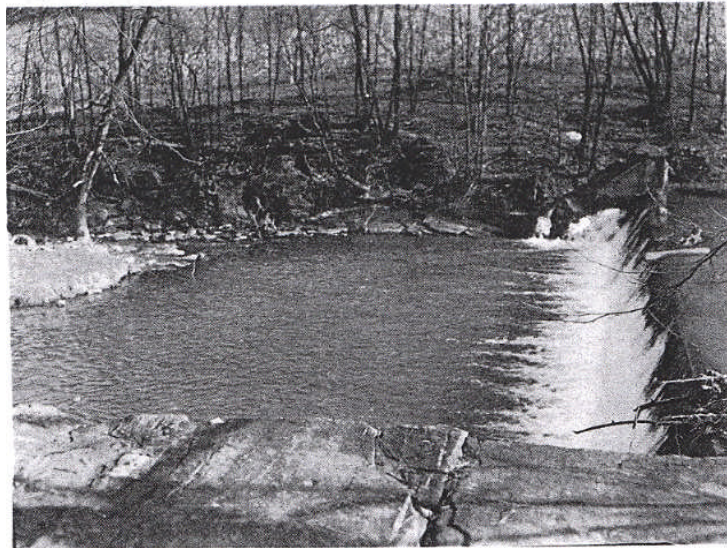
Date of Photograph Unknown

Grant H. Voaden Collection



In this photograph, in the foreground, is, apparently, the floor, or a portion thereof, of the mill, probably on which the man in the photograph on the preceding page is standing. It appears that the floor is just above the water's edge.

Floor of Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill (?)
Date of Photograph Unknown
Grant H. Voaden Collection



This photograph is **NOT** Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill. It is included to illustrate how our mill might have been situated at creek-side. Using the photograph on the bottom, two preceding pages, picture the mill, below, where the man is standing--with the water wheel in the creek behind the dam. Normally the water wheel is in the water upstream from the dam. In the photograph on the preceding page, picture the mill on that floor. This mill does resemble Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill in that it also is multi-stories and of brick construction. However, it must be noted that Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill may have had the water wheel inside, the water reaching it through a raceway from behind the dam.

Replica of North America's First Grist Mill, 1607
Annapolis Valley, LeQuille, Nova Scotia, Canada
Date of Photograph Unknown
From allcanadaphoto.com



In this photograph, the little building in the background apparently is the miller's (employee's) house; it is believed to have remained for some time after the mill was razed. It probably is not the mill which was of brick construction.

Miller's House at Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill (?)
Date of Photograph Unknown
Grant H. Voaden Collection



Citations to the Grant H. Voaden Collection refer to the files of Mr. Voaden at The York County Heritage Trust. According to a source there, Mr. Voaden began his studies in the 1940s, but most of the work was done in the '70s. It is assumed that the photographs from his collection were taken in the '70s. The sites of those photographs are inaccessible. The photographs and copies of his Strickler Mill records were provided to the author by the Heritage Trust.

The brick and stone arch in this photograph, the author believes, is over what was an access road under the railroad between the mill and the Strickler's School Road. The mill would have been behind the arch somewhere around the grove of trees in the background. A good guess is that standing at the arch and looking south, one would see the mill as it stands in the first photograph in this section. Note the grove of trees in the background. Strickler's School Road is behind the spot from where the photograph was taken. From the road to the arch is about 50 yards. It is believed that the immediate area of the railroad, to the viewer's right, is the site of Alfred's accident. This arch is to the east of the house in the photographs on the second following page. A clean-up crew would be nice! And if someone would unlock the gate, the author could get back to the dam where he believes the mill was located. The area of the right-of-way where Alfred's accident occurred (See Chapter VI) is immediately to the right.

Arch Under the Railroad at
Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill
April 10, 2011
Photograph by the Author



In the photograph below is the bridge that carried the railroad over the north flowing Kreutz Creek which makes a dog-leg to the right (west) at about where it seems to end in the background of the photograph. The arch, preceding page, is just to the west (right). In this photograph, the mill, the author believes, was along the creek in the background after it swings to the right. The bridge is one of those that was built after the Confederate troops burned the original wooden bridges during the Battle of Wrightsville.

Railroad Bridge over Kreutz Creek at Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill

April 10, 2011

Photograph by the Author



This house is at the site of the mill. It is believed that it was built by Joseph Strickler, Jr. (1813-1892). There may have been an earlier house in the area, possibly built by Heinrich, Jr., when he began the mill operation. The road in the photograph on the right is Strickler School Road, running east-west. Strickler Lane makes a "T" intersection in the foreground. In the photograph on the right, the mill and the railroad would have been behind the house; the arch is to the left in the photograph on the left. The house, the adjacent guest house (the red brick addition in the photograph on the left), and a large barn behind the house have been converted to apartments. Much of the original woodwork, etc., remain in the house.

Joseph Strickler Home at Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill
April 10, 2011
Photographs by the Author



Interesting and unexplained is the set of stone (concrete?) tracks in the photograph below. They go from the side of the little red building that is behind the house down the bank to the left. If they continued (unknown), they would intersect with the road assumed to go under the arch, two pages previous.

Tracks at Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill Site
April 10, 2011
Photograph by the Author



The exact location of the mill is uncertain. The only certainty is that it was somewhere on the Strickler property at the intersection of Strickler School Road and Strickler Lane (See Maps B, F, and J).

The author believes, based on photographs in this section, that the mill was located at the dam on Kreutz Creek, **south** of the railroad right-of-way. On Map F slightly south of the mill site indicator is Laurel Road which goes west parallel to Kreutz Creek. There Kreutz Creek bends from an easterly to a northerly flow at site of the dam. Unfortunately, the area where the author believes the mill was located is inaccessible.

However, Jim Rudisill believes that the mill was located in what today would be the “side yard” to the east of the house, along the road and beside the creek. He claims that the arch was for the raceway that fed the mill from the dam. However, for the mill to be located at Jim’s suggested site, there would have had to have been a race way for the water to return from the mill to Kreutz Creek. There is no evidence of it. The tracks may be the only indication that the mill was in the side yard, for they may have been a means to carry grain from the barn and the lane from the main road to the mill. However, Maps B and J seem to indicate that the site was a bit back from the road but **north** of the railroad right-of way. Thus, the Rudisill theory may be viable.

STRICKLER’S UPPER MILL/STONE MILL INN

The Strickler relationship with this mill is nebulous. There is no information about any Strickler ownership or why it had the name “Strickler.” The only known relationship is that at one time it was owned by Abraham Baer Sprenkle who at one time owned Strickler’s/Sprenkle’s Mill. Historical references simply refer to a Strickler’s Lower Mill (Strickler’s/Sprenkle’s Mill) and to a Strickler’s Upper Mill. Since this mill is next upstream from Strickler’s Lower Mill, it would follow that this mill would be Strickler’s Upper Mill. This mill can be located on Map B. There is a road going south between the two “L’s” of Hallam PO. Where this road intersects with Kreutz Creek, just north of the railroad tracks, is the site.

It is now the Stone Mill Inn at 305 South Broad Street in Hallam, a popular site for weddings and/or receptions. Information on the inn’s website is that it, a grist mill, was built about 1736 by the Schultz family. It was acquired prior to 1924 by Elwood Oram Sprenkle, son of Abraham, and the last operator of Strickler’s/Sprenkle’s Mill, and subsequently operated by his son, Daniel Elton Sprenkle, until his retirement in 1963. It was known in later years as Willow Grove Mills and perhaps as Mackley’s or Mackey’s.

This photograph is labeled by Mrs. Gamble as “Beutler Mill then Strickler Mill.” Beutler is a European variation of Beidler. She is unable to provide any additional information other than that the photograph was taken in the 1970s. It simply appears to the author to most closely resemble the photographs at the bottom of the page. If it is, the Beutler (Beidler) connection is a mystery. Perhaps this photograph is of a side of the structure not seen in the bottom photographs; note the roof on both of the bottom photographs. It cannot be Stickler’s/Sprenkle’s Mill because that one was brick, and it was razed in 1932. Mrs. Gamble is a distant relative from the Flory family (See the Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township, section of Chapter IV).

Stone Mill Inn (?)
Date of Photograph Unknown
Shirley Gamble Collection



In the photograph below, on the left, the section cut out of the porch overhang is to allow hauling of grain or corn sacks to doors at upper levels

Stone Mill Inn
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Millpictures.com

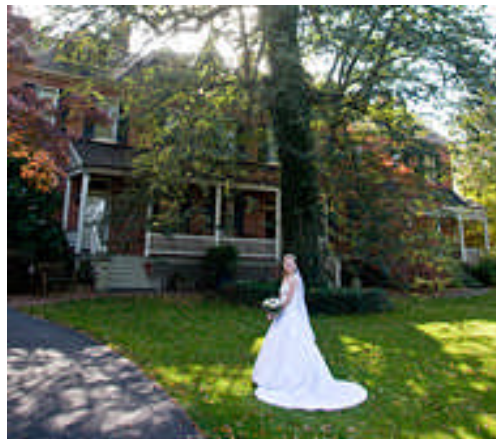


Stone Mill Inn
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Inn’s website



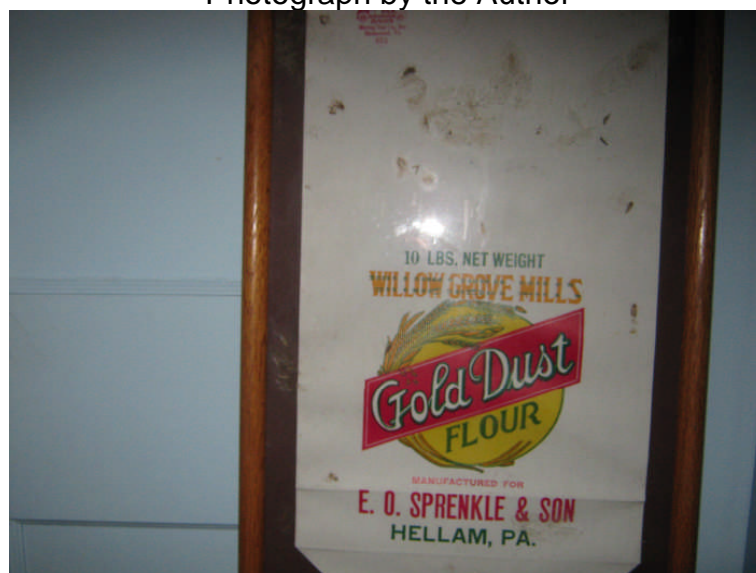
The “Mansion”, located beside the mill, probably was the home of the unknown original/early owner, apparently built in 1736. The structure on the right side of the photograph below is an addition built in 1820.

Mansion at Stone Mill Inn
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Inn’s Website



This flour sack is an actual sack that has been framed. Note that the flour is a product of Willow Grove Mills which was an earlier name for The Stone Mill Inn. The little black spots are Indian Meal Moths (flour bugs). The sack was given to the author by John Munro who owns the former Joseph Strickler property where Strickler’s/Sprenkle’s Mill was located.

Flour Sack from Willow Grove Mills
April 10, 2011
Photograph by the Author



A FOURTH STRICKLER MILL?

From about 1820 to about 1846, a Henry Strickler (which one is unknown) owned a mill that was located at the junction of Kreutz Creek with the Susquehanna River, just south of Wrightsville. The site contained three parcels of land, one of ten acres with the grist mill, another with the saw mill, and the third with two log houses. Prior to 1820, the property was owned by a Reigart, a Wright, and others. It is not know if that ownership was over time or a “partnership” at one time. Henry Strickler apparently sold the property to a Phelps in 1846. This mill may have been owned earlier by Jacob (1788-1859) and then by his son, Joseph (1811-1891) before he moved to Cumberland County.

CHAPTER VI

THE DEATH OF ALFRED DIETZ STRICKLER

Alfred Dietz Strickler (1843-1902) was killed at about one o'clock on Sunday afternoon, September 21, 1902, when struck by the locomotive of a train on the then Pennsylvania Railroad (Frederick Division) tracks that ran through Hellam Township and through the south portion of his farm. It was a single-track road. According to family lore, he frequently used the railroad right-of-way in going to and from his farm and nearby other ones. Family lore also is that he compensated for his almost total deafness by having memorized the train schedules. However, the accident occurred on a Sunday when there were no scheduled trains, and he apparently felt safe in walking the right-of-way. But he was struck by the locomotive of the second section of a special, unscheduled excursion train that he did not hear (See Note 15). It is not known how much earlier the first section passed, but as mentioned in the first article, below, he did not hear it—and he had no way to know that there was a second section. It is not known how many cars comprised the train or how many passengers were on board. The following three newspaper accounts detail the accident, albeit with some inaccuracies. Note that the accounts refer to the site as Sprenkle's Mill, the former Strickler's Mill. It then was being operated by Abraham Baer Sprenkle, husband of Matilda May Strickler Sprenkle who had acquired it from her father, Joseph Strickler, Jr. (See Chapter V).

A.D. STRICKLER DEAD HIT BY FLYING TRAIN

Prominent Hellam Township Farmer Instantly Killed

RUN DOWN ON RAILROAD TRACK

Did Not Hear Approaching Train and Stepped Immediately in Front of it. Dead Man was a well Known and Wealthy Citizen.

Alfred D. Strickler, a wealthy Hellam township farmer was struck and instantly killed yesterday afternoon by a special troop train on the Pennsylvania railroad at a point near Strickler's station, a short distance this side of Wrightsville.

Mr. Strickler had intended to come to York and visit some of his relatives here, but on account of the rain was prevented. About one o'clock he decided to visit Mr. Dietz who lives a short distance from his home. As the roads were in bad condition and the railroad route was the shortest to his intended destination, Mr. Strickler took the latter. It happened that yesterday excursion trains were run from Gettysburg to New York, carrying the

deputation from the Slocum memorial celebration. Mr. Strickler was walking the same direction the train was coming. He came to a muddy part of the road and in order to avoid the mud he stepped to the railroad track. Mr. Strickler was hard of hearing and suspecting nothing did not look for the coming train with which he was struck. The accident occurred about ten minutes after one, when the train, composing the second division and running at full speed, struck the man, hurling him with awful force against an embankment, crushing in his one side, breaking his neck, a leg, and an arm. The crew of the train were brought to the residence of the deceased, where they testified that the unfortunate man stepped upon the tracks so unexpectedly and when the train was so close to him as the stopping or even slackening of the speed of the train was utterly impossible. The engineer said the whistle was blown producing no effect for Mr. Strickler did not see the train and could not hear it until it was directly upon him.

Alfred D. Strickler was 50 years, 10 months and 9 days old at the time of his death. He was born at the Strickler homestead where he lived until his death. He had been engaged in farming until recently, when he retired. He leaves a widow and three children to survive him. His widow was Miss Elizabeth Ruby, daughter of Samuel Ruby, of Hellam Township. His children are Calvin R. Strickler, engaged in the hardware business in Columbia, Pa.; Edward Strickler, a cigar box manufacturer, of Hellam, and Susan Gipe, wife of Mr. Morgan Gipe, of the firm of Strawinski & Gipe this city.

The funeral of Mr. Strickler will be held from his residence, in Hellam township, on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. From *The York Dispatch*, September 22, 1902

Author's note: Alfred's age in the above story is incorrect; born on November 13, 1843, he was just under two months shy of age 59 at his death. Note also the headline re "Flying Train." Even in 1902, newspapers were wont to hype.

**

KILLED ON THE RAILROAD

ALFRED D. STRICKLER KILLED BY A FAST TROOP TRAIN

He Was Unable to Hear the Train Coming and Stepped Right in Front of it and was Killed Instantly—Accident Occurred at Sprenkle's mill, Near Wrightsville—Mr. Strickler was the Father of Mrs. Morgan Gipe of This City—His Wife Was in York at the Time of the Accident.

A distressing railroad accident which resulted in the death of Alfred D. Strickler, one of the best known men in York county, occurred on the Frederick Division railroad, close to Wrightsville, yesterday afternoon. The train that struck and instantly killed Mr. Strickler was a special transporting United States troops from Gettysburg to Philadelphia and New York. The accident occurred about 1 o'clock at a point between Strickler's station and Wrightsville known as Sprenkle's mill.

Mr. Strickler had been accustomed to spend part of Sunday with a friend, William Dietz, at Sprenkle's mill and it was there he was going when he met his sad and untimely

death. On Saturday Mrs. Strickler had come to York to visit her daughter, Mrs. Morgan Gipe and Mr. Strickler had intended to come to York also yesterday. In all probability the rain induced him to change his mind about visiting his daughter and he decided to call on Mr. Dietz instead.

Mr. Strickler was almost totally deaf and he failed to hear the first section of the troop train pass shortly before he left his home. There are no regular trains on the Frederick Division on Sunday and naturally when he started for Mr. Dietz's he had no idea that trains were running yesterday. He was walking on a path along the railroad and when he arrived at Sprengle's it was necessary for him to cross the tracks. Just at this time the troop train came thundering along. The engineer noticed Mr. Strickler as he started to cross the tracks. He blew his whistle, but Mr. Strickler failed to hear it and in an instant he was struck and hurled up along the embankment. The engineer in a statement later said that when the man did step upon the tracks he looked back but it was too late for him to step off. The train was stopped and the crew went back to where Mr. Strickler lay. He was lifeless, having in all probability been instantly killed. He was placed on a stretcher and taken to his home.

Mr. Strickler's son in law, Mr. Gipe, was immediately notified and with Mrs. Strickler he drove to the Strickler home at once. Coroner Brickley was also notified and went down. He found that the dead man's one limb, his one arm and wrist were broken and the whole side of his body crushed. After examining the crew of the train the coroner deemed an inquest unnecessary and none was held.

Alfred D. Strickler was well and favorably known all over the county. He was born and raised on the farm on which he lived until the time of his death. He was a prosperous farmer and for some years had been leading a retired life. He was in his fifty-ninth year but most people who knew him took him to be much older. He is survived by a wife and three children who are C. R. Strickler, of Columbia, Edward Strickler, of Hellam, and Mrs. Susan Strickler Gipe, wife of Morgan S. (sic) Gipe of the firm of Strawinski & Gipe, of this city. Mrs. Strickler was a daughter of Samuel Ruby, late of Hellam.

The funeral will take place at the house Wednesday morning at 9:30 o'clock and the interment will be made in Strickler's burying ground.

The store of Strawinski & Gipe will be closed until after the funeral. From *The Gazette*, September 22, 1902.

Note that Morgan Gipe's middle initial is E.

**

NOTE: THE MAIN HEADLINE IS MISSING

He was Walking on the Railroad Tracks Near Wrightsville

RUN DOWN BY A TROOP TRAIN

The Train was Conveying the 7th Regiment Troops of New York Home from Gettysburg—Strickler was hard of Hearing—The Entire Side of His Body Was Crushed

Alfred D. Strickler was struck and killed yesterday afternoon by the second section of the train carrying the 7th Regiment of New York home from Gettysburg. The accident occurred about one o'clock at a point between Strickler's Station and Wrightsville.

Mr. Strickler had been accustomed to spend part of Sunday with a friend, William Dietz, at Sprenkle's Mill and it was there he was going when he met his sad and untimely death. On Saturday Mrs. Strickler had come to York on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. Morgan E. Gipe and Mr. Strickler had intended to come to York also yesterday. In all probability the rain induced him to change his mind about visiting his daughter and he decided to call on Mr. Dietz instead.

Mr. Strickler was almost totally deaf and failed to hear the first section of the troop train pass shortly before he left his home. There are no regular trains on the Frederick Division on Sunday, and naturally when he started for Mr. Dietz's he had no idea that trains were running yesterday. He was walking on a path along the railroad and when he arrived at Sprenkle's it was necessary for him to cross the tracks. Just at this time the troop train came thundering along. The engineer noticed Mr. Strickler as he started to cross the tracks. He blew his whistle, but Mr. Strickler failed to hear it and in an instant he was struck and hurled up along the embankment. The engineer in a statement later, said that when man did step upon the tracks he looked back but it was too late for him to step off. The train was stopped and the crew went back to where Mr. Strickler lay. He was dead, having in all probability been killed instantly. He was placed on a stretcher and taken to his home.

Mr. Strickler's son-in-law, Mr. Gipe, was immediately notified and with Mrs. Strickler he drove to the Strickler home at once. Coroner Brickley was also notified and went down. He found that the dead man's one limb, his one arm and wrist were broken, and the whole side of his body was crushed. After examining the crew of the train the coroner deemed an inquest unnecessary and none was held. From an unknown newspaper, September 22, 1902

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In all three of the above accounts, the location of the accident is inaccurate. It did not occur between Strickler Station and Wrightsville. That location would have been east of Strickler Station. Rather, it occurred at Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill which was west of Strickler Station. The location of the accident can be found on Map F. On the south side of the intersection of Strickler School Road and Strickler Lane, there is a house, behind or beside which the mill was located. (See Chapter V) The accident occurred on the right-of-way just south of the house. The railroad right-of-way can be seen there running east and west.

From his visits to the area in 2011, the author questions other details in the newspaper accounts. Since there were no witnesses to Alfred's walk along the right-of-way, his actions must have been surmised by the newspaper reporters with perhaps some input from the train crew and/or family members. At the site of the accident, more or less at the arch and bridge discussed in Chapter V, the

railroad right-of-way is atop an embankment about 10' above the south side ground level where probably would be the path on which Alfred is alleged to have been walking before crossing the tracks. The author believes that he actually was walking within or just beside the tracks on top of the embankment when he attempted to cross the tracks and was struck. The tracks are on top of the embankment all the way between the mill site and Rosevale. The right-of-way is quite wide enough to accommodate the tracks and allow room to walk beside them, as shown in the photographs below.

Railroad Right-of-Way at Rosevale
To the West To the East
June 13, 2011
Photographs by the Author



At the presumed accident site, there is another embankment, about four feet high, on the north side of the right-of-way which fits with the comment in the obituaries that he was thrown into an embankment when struck. Tom Washbon, a family friend and a long-time employee of the Norfolk & Southern RR and a knowledgeable railroad historian, advised the author that Alfred probably was struck by the right side of the cow-catcher. Its configuration (See the photograph of a locomotive two pages following) would have thrown him across the front of the loco and into the embankment. Tom stated that the train probably was travelling at about 35 miles per hour, having just begun to slow down for the Wrightsville Station about two miles away.

Alfred was on his way to meet William Dietz, at the latter's farm. It was located on Strickler Lane north of Strickler School Road, where Strickler Lane makes a sharp bend to the west (See Map F). To get there, from the tracks, Alfred would have had to climb up that four foot high embankment, then make his way down a twenty foot hill to the ground level of the house (See Chapter V), walk some 50 yards to the road, and then walk about a half mile up the hill of Strickler Lane to the Dietz farm.

The newspaper accounts refer to William Dietz as a friend of Alfred. Actually the two men were first cousins. William Dietz was the son of Frederick Dietz who

was the brother of Elizabeth Dietz Strickler, Alfred's mother. Both Frederick and Elizabeth were the children of George A. Dietz.

Jim Strickler suggests that since the train that struck Alfred was carrying Civil War veterans home from a ceremony in Gettysburg, Alfred could be considered the last Civil War casualty.

Not mentioned in the survivor listings in the first two accounts, above, is that Alfred also was survived by four grand children, Alfred, Daniel, and Jacob Strickler, and Elizabeth Gipe.

In considering the accident, it is interesting to speculate on Alfred's route to meet William Dietz. Looking at Map F, one might wonder why he didn't just leave his house, walk east on Beidler Road to Strickler School Road, follow it to Strickler Lane, and then turn left to Dietz's home on Strickler Lane—assuming that the roads existed then. Or, subject to the crop situation in the fields, he simply could have done a "crow's flight," directly across the fields to the intersection. To get to Dietz's house by using the railroad tracks, he had to walk south from his house about 300 yards along a farm trail, shown on the photograph below, left, to get to the tracks. Then when he arrived at the accident site, almost a mile away, he was quite south of Dietz's house as is evident in Map F. Interesting ???

These photographs were taken from the right-of-way. In the one on the left, the house is behind the grove of trees in the center background. In the one on the right, the lane continues on through the south pasture to Kreutz Creek

Approach to Right-of-Way at Rosevale from North (L) and South (R)
June 13, 2011
Photographs by Author



On the following page is a copy of the Coroner's Report on Alfred's death.

YORK COUNTY, SS:

^{Inquisition}
An Inquisition, Indented, taken at Hellam Sept
in the County of York, on the 21st day of Sept
one thousand nine hundred 1902 before me D. E. St. Brickley
Coroner of the County aforesaid, upon the view of the body of Alfred D. Brickler
then and there lying dead, upon ~~the oaths and solemn affirmations of~~

~~good and lawful men of the county aforesaid, who being duly sworn and affirmed, and charged to inquire on behalf of the Commonwealth how, and in what manner the said~~ Alfred D. Brickler

came to his death, do say upon their oaths and affirmations, that the aforesaid Alfred D. Brickler was found dead, that there were

marks of violence appearing on his body, and came to his death on the 21st day Sept 1902
by being struck by a train (194 Extra-South bound) on Grand Div.
P.R.R. while walking on track & being so deaf as not hearing
the signals given by engines

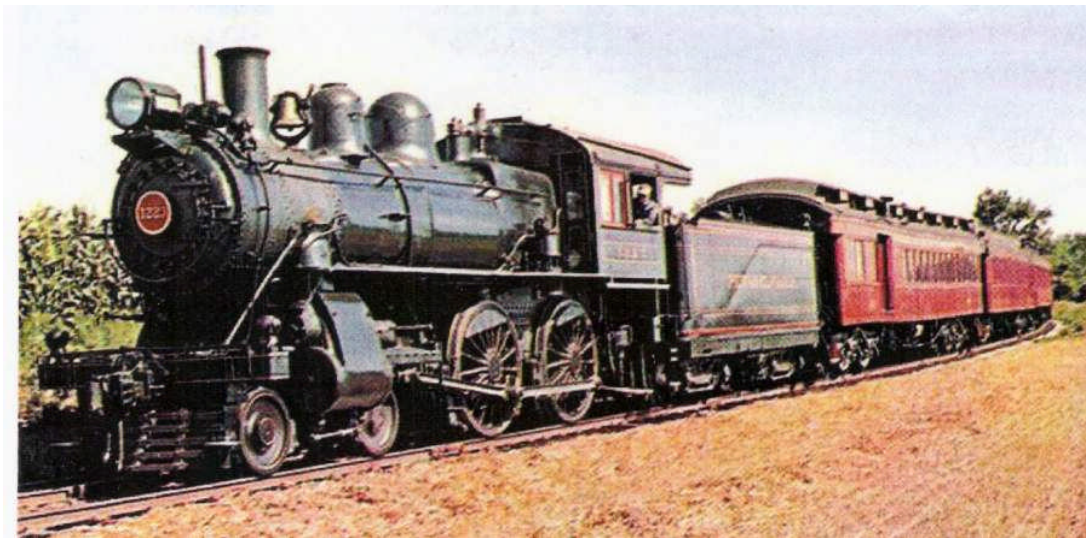
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, as well the Coroner ~~as the jurors aforesaid~~, have to this inquisition put his
names and seals, at Hellam Sept this
21st day of Sept in the year of our Lord one
thousand nine hundred 1902

D. E. St. Brickley CORONER. {SEAL}

{SEAL} {SEAL}
{SEAL} {SEAL}
{SEAL} {SEAL}

Here are a PRR locomotive, tender, and passenger cars typical of those in use in 1902 and representative of that which struck and killed Alfred. The pictured locomotive, a Class D16, 4-4-0, was built in 1905 at the Juniata Shops in Altoona, PA. Note that the cars were wooden; steel cars were another five or six years away. The scene is along the Strasburg Railroad right-of-way near Strasburg, Lancaster County, PA. This locomotive, #1223, has been restored and is on display at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania in Strasburg. It was last in service on the Strasburg Railroad, having been retired on October 26, 1989.

PRR #1223 Locomotive, Tender, and Passenger Cars
Date of Photograph Unknown
Tom Washbon Collection



Note that the number plate on the front of the locomotive is not the classic PRR red keystone which was adopted about 1927. Note also the person in the window of the cab of the locomotive, above. He must be the fireman, the coal shoveler, taking a break, for the engineer's position was on the right side of the cab.

CHAPTER VII

THE BEIDLER SIDE OF THE FAMILY

- **ANCESTORS**
- **BEIDLER HOMESTEAD**
- **BEIDLER CEMETERY**

ANCESTORS

The Beidler (many spelling variations) family apparently were Swiss, and, probably, Mennonites, who, like many of their faith, fled the religious persecution to Rheinland-Pfalz from where they immigrated to America, settling first in Bally, Berks County, PA, probably in 1743, and then moving to Hellam Township in 1744.

- Anna Beidler ((1728-1807) married Heinrich “Henry” Strickler, Jr. (1726-1792). Anna was the daughter of
- Ulrich Beidler (1705-1749), the immigrant, and Barbara Unknown (-). Ulrich was the son of
- Christian Beidler (1675-1734) and Susanna Wurtz (-). Christian was the son of
- Peter Beidler (1632-) and Verna Buerki (-). Peter was the son of
- Ulrich Beidler (1588-1636) and Catherina Tschanz (1595-). Ulrich was the son of
- Jost Beidler (1565-) and Barbelei Unknown (-)

BEIDLER HOMESTEAD

This stately residence, Kreutzford, is on Pheasant Run Road at, obviously, the ford at Kreutz Creek (See the first paragraph of the Rosevale section of Chapter III). It is not known who built this house. The additions on both ends were by later owners. The house now is owned by Joe Kindig, III, a prominent antique dealer in York.

Beidler Homestead, "Kreutzford," Hellam Township
Built Ca. 1814
Date of Photograph Unknown
Shirley Gamble Collection



BEIDLER CEMETERY

This small family cemetery, photograph on following page, consists of only four headstones, two of which are semi-upright, supported by brush, and two of which are lying flat on the ground (different from the photograph). It is on the top of a four foot high embankment on the north side of Beidler Road, several hundred yards west of the entrance to Rosevale. The stones barely can be seen from the roadway. Two of the stones are for Baltzer Beidler (1808-1884) and Barbara Beidler (1805-1880), both mentioned in Strickler Neighborliness, "The Visitors" (See Chapter XI). The other two stones are for an Elizabeth Beidler (1808-1884) and an Ann Beidler, stone dates unreadable.

Beidler Family Cemetery
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Hellam Township Website



The author regrets that he cannot locate (lost somewhere between the camera and the computer) two photographs of the Beidler Cemetery that he took on his April 10, 2011, visit to the area. They show that two of the head stones are now semi-upright; i.e., leaning against shrubs, as noted on the preceding page.

CHAPTER VIII

THE RUBY SIDE OF THE FAMILY

- **ANCESTORS**
- **RUBY HOMESTEAD**
- **RUBY SUMMER HOME**
- **JOHANNES RUBY**
- **SUSANNA STRICKLER RUBY**
- **A LETTER FROM SUSANNA**
- **GEORGE WASHINGTON RUBY**
- **SAM'S DISTILLERY**
- **OTHER RUBY DESCENDANTS OF NOTE**

ANCESTORS

Our Rubys (originally Rubi), French Huguenots (See Note 16), emigrated from Switzerland in 1748. One branch of the clan settled in Windsor Township; our line settled in Hellam Township.

- Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby (1745-1928) married Alfred Dietz Strickler (1843-1902). Elizabeth was the daughter of
- Samuel Ruby (1816-1892) and Susanna Strickler (1820-1909). Samuel was the son of
- Johannes "John" Ruby, Jr. (1786-1842) and Elizabeth Becker (1793-1866). Johannes, Jr. was the son of
- Johannes "John" Ruby (1763-1826), "The Colonel," and Salome Dosch (1763-1820). Johannes was the son of
- Caspar Rubi (1720-1776), a Swiss Mennonite, the immigrant, and Mary Magdalene Fortineux (1727-1794), a French Huguenot (See Note 16). Caspar was the son of
- Jacob Rubi (1685-) and Verena Müerner (1685-). Jacob was the son of
- Peter Rubi (1653-1711) and Anna Catherine Gebfert (1657-1690). Peter was the son of
- Hans Rubi, III (1605-1672) and Barbara Jaggi (1615-1672). Hans, III was the son of
- Hans Rubi, Jr. (1579-) and Dichtlin Elyzabeth Von Kanel (1580-). Hans, Jr., was the son of
- Hans Rubi (1540-) and Elsbeth Müller (1550-).

RUBY HOMESTEAD

The farm of Samuel Ruby (1816-1892), great grandson of Caspar, the immigrant, in Hellam Township today is the site of The Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education, a restoration and farming educational project of York County. The farm was donated to the county by a subsequent owner, D. E. Horn, a prominent York feed and grain merchant. The original Ruby farmhouse, built about 1840, is the headquarters of the operation. This house is where Lizzie was born and reared.

The farm can be located on Map B to the left side of the map, above "Hallam P.O." (See "S. Ruby).

In the photograph on the left, what appears to be an addition on the right side of the house is actually a separate out-building behind the house, shown in the photograph on the right. It is not known when it was built. It is currently used for storage. The stone wall is a recent addition. And, at the left side of the house, that's Jim Rudisill in the white shirt and Jim Strickler in the blue vest

Samuel Ruby Farm House
September 25, 2010
Photograph by the Author



Out-Building
June 13, 2011
Photograph by the Author



The remaining foundation of the original barn indicates that it was quite a substantial structure.

Remaining Foundation of Original Barn

June 13, 2011

Photographs by the Author



Family lore is that during the Battle of Wrightsville, a confederate officer rode onto the farm and asked Lizzie, then in her late teens, for a knife so that he could repair the harness of his horse. He then asked her where all of the horses were; Lizzie told a patriotic little white lie that they “had been sent away,” “away” being up in the woods. Apparently, however, the rebels did manage to “acquire” one horse, for Sam’s heirs later filed a claim with the State for \$250 for a missing roan. This story may be a bit more lore than fact, for Sam died in 1892! No claim until after Sam died?

RUBY SUMMER HOME

Samuel Ruby's summer home, built in 1869 as a log house, stands today at 27 West Market Street, Hallam, two houses east of Mansion Ed's home. It is but 400 yards from the farm house—as the crow flies. According to Bonnie Heim, owner in 2010, the house is occupied by seven ghosts from, she believes, the Civil War era. However, note that the house was built after the war. On Map B, the summer home is just south of the farm on the "main road." Mrs. Heim operates a delightful and popular tea room from the house. In September of 2010, Mrs. Heim said that she was planning to sell it.

Samuel Ruby Summer Home

Built 1869

September 25, 2010

Photograph by the Author



Market Street, Hallam, PA
Samuel Ruby Summer Home in Background
Early 1900s Postcard
Joseph P. Brillhart



JOHANNES RUBY

Johannes Ruby, known, for unknown reasons, as “The Colonel,” was the grandfather of Samuel Ruby, father of Lizzie, and the son of Caspar, the original immigrant. The cottage in this photograph was his home. It is on Mt. Pisgah, the mountains, well, fairly big hills, all of 865 feet high, just south of “Stricklerville” and also the site of Samuel S. Lewis State Park. Caspar purchased the property on April 26, 1749. He had arrived in America in 1748.

Pork Hall, Home of Johannes “The Colonel” Ruby
Windsor Township, York County, PA
Built 1811
Front View
September 25, 2010
Photograph by the Author



Pork Hall, Home of Johannes Ruby, “The Colonel”
Windsor Township, York County, PA
Built 1811

Rear view, Probably Original Rear View, Restored
Dates of Photographs Unknown
Joseph P. Brillhart Collection



A quasi-Ruby Cemetery is located on a nearby property. It is in total disrepair; virtually all of the twenty or so stones are lying on the ground and are unreadable. Most Rubys are buried in various cemeteries in Hellam and Windsor Townships.

SUSANNA STRICKLER RUBY

Susanna Strickler married Samuel Ruby and is the mother of Lizzie. This photograph of her is an absolute classic. It's right out of Norman Rockwell. Do you see what probably is a Bible under her left hand? And look at her right hand! I'll take this over "Whistler's Mother" anyday.

Susanna Strickler Ruby (1820-1910)
Date of Photograph Unknown
James Rudisill Collection



A LETTER FROM SUSANNA

This letter, following page, from Susanna Strickler Ruby to her son Milton, Lizzie's brother, in Woodsborough (now Woodsboro), MD, was transcribed by Joe Brillhart and is in a collection formerly owned by his mother. It describes the same accident to Alfred that is described in "Lizzie's Travails" in Chapter XI. It was written on the same day; thus, Milton received the news from two sources, his mother and his sister. The letter is included for the content and for the style. Note the reference to Alfred as "Abb." It apparently was a nick-name (if there was such

in those days), for it has been found in other documents. Note the lack of punctuation, especially periods. Note also the formality of the salutation and signature. And note that she signs her name "Susan"; all records indicate that her name was Susanna.

October 25, 1875

Milton

I received your letter and I have nothing to write but had never ???? that your Brother in law Abb Strickler had bad luck his horses did run of with the wangen and the wagen went over him with about twenty baskets full of corn and broke his right arm between the elbow and the shoulder the dockter said that he was not hurt in side he think there is no danger with him I was down Saturday night he has not much paine he can rest well and did sleep most of the night I would like if Father would come home once and you want geape seed do you want some of them on the garret and how I shall send them

Susan Ruby

The accident happened on Friday eving when the five o clock train went up they let the steam of and whislel where they never did before

GEORGE WASHINGTON RUBY

George Washington Ruby, a grandson of “The Colonel,” was the principal of the York County Academy from 1850 to his death in 1880. It is said that he instructed some 2,000 students during that time. He also founded the York County Normal School, a branch of the YCA, to train elementary school teachers. This branch operated until 1921 when it fell victim to enhanced state requirements and competition from the state normal schools.

George Washington Ruby (1824-1880)
Date of Photograph Unknown
From *York College of Pennsylvania*, 2008



SAM'S DISTILLERY

And on his farm, Samuel Ruby had a, not just a cow; he had a distillery—just like most other farmers of his era and the area. And apparently Sam's booze was of some renown. The advertisements on the following page are from the Joseph P. Brillhart collection.

COPPER-DISTILLED
Old Rye Whiskey,
WARRANTED PURE.



Manufactured April, 1852, by
Samuel Ruby,
HELLAM, YORK CO., PA.

DEAR SIR:

Having on hand a lot of choice

PEACH BRANDY,
APPLE BRANDY,
GRAPE BRANDY,
Catawba Wine and Old Rye,

which I wish to dispose of, I hereby call your attention
to the same. Some of these

LIQUORS,

have been on hand twenty years, and none of them less
than four years, the fruit raised and manufactured into
spirits by myself, and warranted perfectly pure.

If in want of any of these articles I shall be pleased to
hear from you, and will give you favorable terms.

Address me at Hellam P. O., York Co., Pa.

Yours Respectfully,

SAMUEL RUBY.

OTHER RUBY DESCENDANTS OF NOTE

Two other Ruby descendants of some note are stage and screen actor Cameron Mitchell and Pearl Harbor (alleged?) scapegoat, Admiral Husband E. Kimmel. Both trace their lineage to Caspar, Mitchell through Caspar's son Johannes, "The Colonel", and Kimmel through Caspar's daughter Juliana.

Cameron Mitchell (1918-1994)
Date of Photograph Unknown
Photograph from Wikipedia



Born in Dallastown, PA, as Cameron MacDowell Mitzell, he was a star of Broadway and Hollywood. During the 1940s, his brother, Channing, lived next door to the author in York, PA. However, the author has no recollection of seeing Cameron (if he ever visited his brother).

His film career began with minor roles in films dating back to 1945 including *They Were Expendable* (with John Wayne and Robert Montgomery), but he quickly rose to young leading man status opposite such stars as Wallace Beery in *The Mighty McGurk*, Doris Day and James Cagney in *Love Me or Leave Me*, Lana Turner and Spencer Tracy in *Cass Timberlane*, Clark Gable and Jane Russell in *The Tall Men*, and Marlon Brando, Merle Oberon, and Jean Simmons in *Desiree*.

Some of his best-known films included the 1951 adaptation of *Death of a Salesman* (he originated the role of Happy on Broadway), *Les Misérables* in 1952, the 1953 comedy *How to Marry a Millionaire* (with Marilyn Monroe), and 1956's film version of *Carousel*.

During the 1960s, Mitchell starred in numerous Italian horror, fantasy, and thriller films, several of which were directed by Mario Bava, including *Erik the Conqueror* (1961), *Blood and Black Lace* (1964), and *Knives of the Avenger* (1966).

It was on TV where Mitchell had the greatest effect during the latter part of his career, and he is best remembered for starring as Uncle Buck in the 1960s NBC western series, *The High Chaparral*, where he and co-star Henry Darrow both stole the show.[*citation needed*] He had also made an appearance on an episode of *Bonanza* and ABC's *S.W.A.T.*. He guest starred on the short lived TV series *The Swiss Family Robinson* in 1975. He appeared on

Gene Evans' short-lived *Spencer's Pilots* on CBS in the fall of 1976. He also provided the voice of Jesus in *The Robe*. From Wikipedia.

Admiral Husband E. Kimmel (1884-1968)
Date of Photograph Unknown
Photograph from Wikipedia



Husband Edward Kimmel (February 26, 1882 – May 14, 1968) was a four-star admiral in the United States Navy. He served as Commander-in-chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Because of the attack, he was removed from office and was reduced to his permanent two-star rank of rear admiral. He would subsequently retire from the Navy with that rank.

Husband E. Kimmel was born in Henderson, Kentucky, on February 26, 1882, and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1904. His father, Major Manning Marius Kimmel (1832-1916), served in the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War. Husband was married to Dorothy Kinkaid, sister of Thomas C. Kinkaid, with whom he had two sons Manning and Thomas.

Before reaching flag rank, he served on several battleships, commanded two destroyer divisions, a destroyer squadron, and the USS *New York* (BB-34). He also held a number of important positions on flag staffs and in the Navy Department, and completed the senior course at the Naval War College.

After promotion to Rear Admiral in 1937, he commanded Cruiser Division Seven on a diplomatic cruise to South America and then became Commander of Cruisers, Battle Force, in 1939. From Wikipedia.

CHAPTER IX

THE DIETZ SIDE OF THE FAMILY

- **ANCESTORS**
- **DIETZ CEMETERY**
- **ELIZABETH DIETZ'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE**

ANCESTORS

The Dietz Family, probably Mennonites, emigrated from Rheinland-Pfalz (Palatinate) to Hellam Township in 1738. Many descendants remain in Hellam Township.

- Elizabeth Dietz (1819-1897) married Jacob Strickler (1811-1892). They were the parents of Alfred Dietz Strickler (1843-1902). Elizabeth was the daughter of
- George A. Dietz (1791-1865) and Christina Blessing (1794-1841). George was the son of
- Johan George Dietz, Jr. (1762-1822) and Elizabeth Yeagle (1763-1843). Johan, Jr., was the son of
- Johan George Dietz (1739-1823) and Anna Magdalena Schmidt (1743-1805). Johan was the son of
- Conrad Dietz (1711-1758), the immigrant, and Susanna Catherina Bracher (1705-1758). Conrad was the son of
- John Dietz (1690-) and Unknown.

DIETZ CEMETERY

Dietz Cemetery is in Hellam Township, located off Hill View Road, along Wildoat Lane, an unmaintained dirt road. The cemetery appears to be maintained, but it apparently has not had a burial since 1928. There are more than 100 graves in this cemetery.



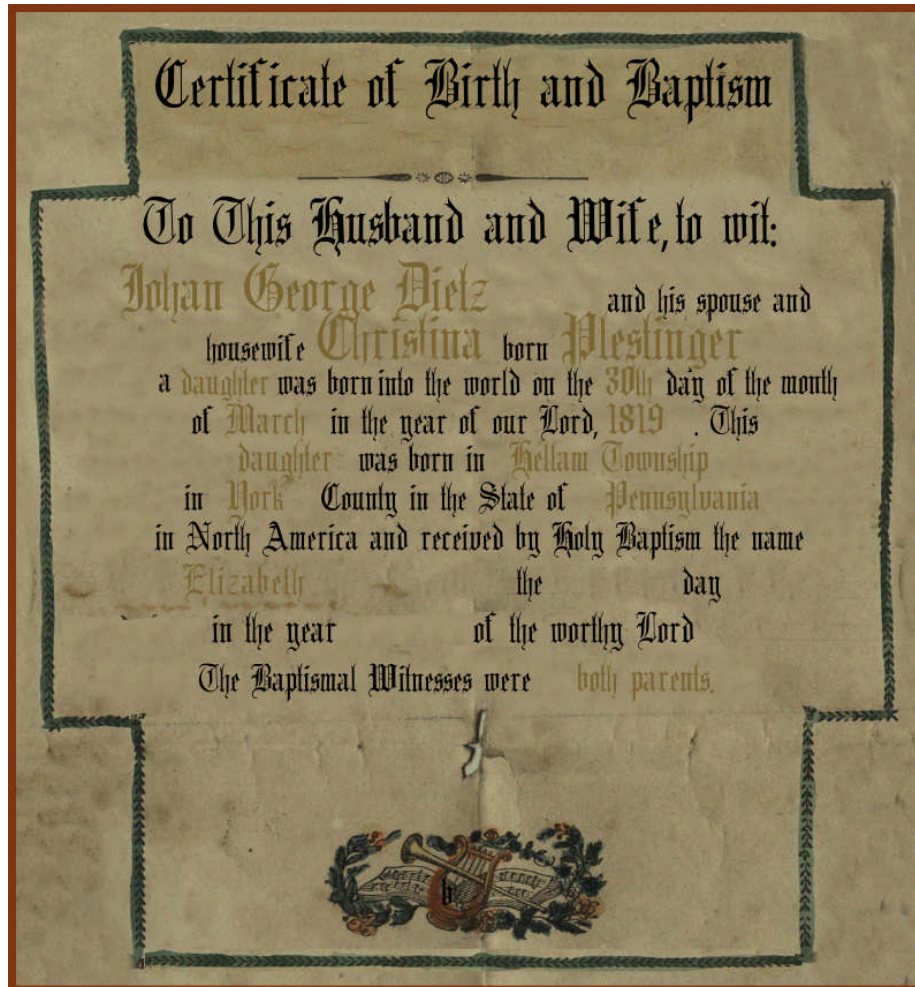
ELIZABETH DIETZ'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Although it is unreadable—unless you are fluent in old German and because it is so faint--this birth certificate, following page, is included because it is a magnificent piece. However, Jay Strickler, who is fluent in German, was able to make a more legible copy which he has translated—at least the “main part,” in the middle. He stated that the several small sections of text are in poetic form and that translation of them requires someone with experience in that genre. The original is framed and on a wall in Jim Strickler's home. Elizabeth Dietz Strickler was the mother of Alfred Dietz Strickler.

Elizabeth Dietz's Birth Certificate
 1819
 James C. Strickler Collection



This translation by Jay Strickler is of the text in the center of the certificate. Note the mother's maiden name of Plesinger; it was Anglesized to Blessing. The date of baptism remains unknown.



Members of the Dietz Family still reside in Hellam Township. Many are Old Order River Brethren. Myron, a most respected retired faculty member at Lancaster (PA) Mennonite High School, maintains a popular produce stand in front of a family farmhouse on Route 462 between Strickler Lane and Strickler School Road. Myron is a descendant of Frederick Dietz who was a brother of Elizabeth, Alfred's mother. Frederick married a Strickler. Myron's son, John, and his family live on a farm on Strickler Lane next to the non-farm residence of his parents.

As noted in Chapter VI, at the time of his fatal accident, Alfred was going to visit William Dietz, a, according to the newspaper stories, friend. Actually the two men were second cousins. William was the son of Frederick who was the sister of Elizabeth, Alfred's mother; both Frederick and Elizabeth were the children of George A Dietz.

CHAPTER X

RECOLLECTIONS OF ALFRED'S GRANDSON AND GREAT GRANDSONS

The author extends his appreciation to the family members who contributed to this chapter.

DANIEL BURSK STRICKLER, GRANDSON

In his memoirs, published in 1972, Dan included the following recollections of his grandparents and Rosevale:

Page 2: ...we enjoyed many Sundays when my father would take us to the Strickler farm in York County to visit his mother. We always came back with provisions, such as butter, eggs, hams, celery, chickens and vegetables, carried in large market baskets.

Page 5: I remember so well the happy days we Strickler children spent on my grandmother's farm in York County, just about three miles across the river. My grandfather Strickler was killed walking along the railroad tracks near his farm in 1903 (sic). There every summer, we, along with our cousins, Elizabeth, Harriet, and Clara May, children of aunt Sue and uncle Morgan Gipe from York, were sent to grandmother Strickler's farm. How she loved us all, and how she, as a widowed grandmother, housed, bedded, and fed us all for many summer months. Life on the farm and in the country delighted us. We romped in the fields, fished and swam in the creek that ran through the farm; herded the cattle in the morning and evening; drove the horses and mules; and rode around on horseback on nearby country roads. We went barefoot most of the time, and wore overalls and straw hats. Nothing enriched our lives so much as the experiences of living on a farm, with its wholesome environment and more or less independent existence.

ALBERT BURSK STRICKLER, JR., GREAT GRANDSON

Al shares this recollection of a visit with his great uncle, Edward Dietz Strickler:

I did meet Mansion Ed once -- I think that his wife was not living -- at least I do not remember meeting her. After our visit in his house, he walked us down his front walk, and before we got to the steps to the sidewalk, he told me to come over near him. At that point, he pulled out about a 5 inch roll of bills from an old pair of blue jeans and peeled off a one dollar bill which he handed to me and told me to be careful about where I

spent it. This was pretty impressive to me at the time. I would guess that was about 1939.

For the record, Ed's wife, Annie, died in 1944; Ed in 1941.

And, he shares the following two anecdotes about his father, Al, and his uncle Jake, probably in Columbia:

Two stories I remember are --- one: several of the brothers each took one or two pigeons under their coats to church one Sunday and sat up in the balcony. When the minister said -- as he did every Sunday -- 'may the dove of peace descend upon you' the boys let the pigeons out to fly in the church. Needless to say, they were severely punished for that trick.

Second one, not so nice, pertains to their older female neighbor next door who asked the boys if they could find a way to terminate the life of her very old and feeble dog. She said he must not suffer so it would have to a quick death. The boys agreed they could handle that job so they tied the 4 legs of the dog to stakes in the ground. They had a large toy cannon which they loaded with stones, rocks, bb's, nails, etc., inserted a powder charge, wheeled the cannon up to the dogs head and fired it. All that was left were the dog's 4 paws tied to the stakes. When they reported back to the neighbor, she asked if the dog suffered at all. The boys said he never knew what hit him.

As an aside, he offers the following observation:

I went back to the farmhouse in Hellam last year and had a nice visit with the current owners who, incidentally, have a daughter attending the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. They were very aware of the Strickler history of the farm and wanted to know more. They have done a lot of remodeling, and it is in wonderful condition, but it is not a restoration.

Al lives in Charlottesville, VA. The visit was in 2010.

JAMES CALVIN STRICKLER, GREAT GRANDSON

Although Jim did not provide an actual "recollections" document, his recollections, following, have been excerpted from a number of emails to the author over the past several years. Others are within the text of the book and are not repeated here.

I got the impression that the grandkids didn't do much serious farm work but do remember that Dad hated "suckering" the tobacco plants. He and Dan liked to walk

barefoot through warm “cow piles”, and Dad seemed to enjoy the look on my face when he told me about this disgusting practice.

Snakes were abundant on the farm, including garter, black, and timber rattlesnakes. I never recall his mentioning that anyone was bitten by a rattler.

All in all visiting grandma Lizzie was an enjoyable experience for the kids even though Grandma and Calvin spoke Penna. Dutch a lot to each other, especially when they didn’t want the kids to know what they were talking about.

My Dad and Kash told me that there was a tenant farmer at Rosevale when they were growing up. And also that at harvest time Lizzie hired mule teams and 15-20 workers to help with the harvest. Dad recalled the huge meals that were prepared for the hired hands, which he, his sibs, and probably cousins enjoyed.

Re: Anna Loucks Strickler ... met her briefly a couple of times, and all I remember is sitting with my family, Uncle Ed, and Aunt Anna around a wood stove in their kitchen. We always visited in the winter. Can’t recall what was discussed. Ed and Anna were very pleasant, and he always gave Jay and me a dollar each. They both dressed plainly, but not hook and eye.

CHAPTER XI

STRICKLER BITS AND PIECES

This chapter contains commentary about and photographs of Strickler-ana that do not warrant a chapter of their own. Connections with “Our Strickler Heritage” may be stretched for some, but they are intriguing enough and related enough to be included. Many items were transcribed from articles from, presumably, a Columbia newspaper, that are in Hattie’s scrapbook.

ALFRED’S GRINDING WHEEL

The classic piece of farm-ware was Alfred’s pedal-operated, sandstone (probably) grinding wheel at Rosevale--and who knows for how many generations before him.

It was acquired by his great grandson, Jim Strickler, on a visit to Rosevale in 1973. Jim saw the wheel half buried in old hay in the now razed tobacco barn and commented on it to the custodian, an elderly man who lived in a trailer next to the then vacant house. He told Jim that as a young boy he watched Alfred sharpen axes on the grindstone. Jim offered to pay for it, but the caretaker said, “You are a Strickler; it’s yours. I know your grandfather (sic) would want you to have it.” It now is in the dining room of Jim and Pegge’s farmhouse in Norwich, VT. Note that the then rusted metal framework has been repainted. Note also the metal piece above the wheel. It held a tin can that had a small drip hole in its bottom. Water would drip through the hole and cool the stone and the blade during grinding.

Alfred Dietz Strickler’s Grinding Wheel
February, 2011
Photograph by James C. Strickler



ALFRED'S MOTHER'S COVERLETS

These two magnificent woven coverlets were made for Alfred's mother, Elizabeth Dietz Strickler (1819-1897). They are two of three which were handed down from Elizabeth to her grand-daughter, Susie, then to her three daughters, Elizabeth, Harriet and Clara May, each of whom acquired one. The first one, below, is owned by Jim Rudisill, son of Elizabeth. In the corner block is woven "Elizabeth Dietz Strickler 1844." It was made by Martin Hoke of Dover, PA, ten miles northwest of York. The second one may or may not have been made by Mr. Hoke. Some observers claim that it is not his style. It is owned by Susie's great grand-daughter, Susan Elizabeth Rudisill, who inherited it from her mother, Elizabeth Rudisill Beadle, Susie's granddaughter. It apparently is the one that passed down to Clara May. There is no name or date woven into this one. The third, possibly dated 1838 and probably made by Mr. Hoke, no longer is in the family. The coverlets apparently were not wedding presents, for Elizabeth was married in 1842, and they apparently have no relationship to the birth of her children in 1843, 1849, and 1854.

Elizabeth Dietz Strickler's Coverlet #1
From *York Since 1741* by James Rudisill, Ca. 1991



The chair has no Strickler significance.

The second coverlet, following page, has been researched by Ms. Rudisill who provided the following commentary, slightly edited:

It is a full size hand woven coverlet, made of wool and linen, showing excellent workmanship. The linen and wool possibly were grown on the Strickler farm. Often, large farms had a loom and produced most of the family's textiles, with the help of an itinerant weaver who would do more complex work. Cotton was used for the warp (threaded on to the loom the long way). The weft consists of hand-spun wool dyed with natural plant dyes: dark blue, indigo; light blue, woad, or a milder solution of indigo, and the red (or rust)

color from, possibly, sycamore bark, lichen or madder root. The pattern is a unique Pennsylvania German double twill; the two sides differ in the amount of white thread that shows. One of the remarkable things, indicating the skill and consistency of the weaver, is that two lengths, 36" wide by 8 feet long, were stitched together to make a 6" wide coverlet, and the pattern matches so evenly that it is hard to find the seam! Weaver unknown.

Elizabeth Dietz Strickler's Coverlet #2

April, 2011

Photograph by Susan Rudisill



Martin Hoke, who created at least (probably) two of Elizabeth Dietz's coverlets, apparently was of some renown. One of his works is among the holdings of the Art Institute of Chicago. The corner block in many of his coverlets includes his name, the date of weaving, and the customer's name. He frequently included the pattern name in another area.

Martin Hoke was born in Germany and immigrated to America where he went into business as a weaver in Dover, York County, Pennsylvania. One of his advertisements stated he wove both wholesale and retail. Examples of his work have corner blocks dated from 1833-1847. From www.hiltpewter.com

Weavers were essential members of the community in 18th and 19th century America. In Pennsylvania before the Industrial Revolution you would raise sheep for wool and cultivate flax for linen fibers. After processing and spinning the raw materials into thread or yarn, you would take them to the local weaver. Well over 500 York County weavers from 1800 to 1860 have been identified. From www.yorkblog.com

BANANA SPLIT

We can't claim any presidents, prominent scientists, athletes, or entertainers in our direct line. But, there is one real Strickler claim to fame. However, he's so distant that he probably can't even be called a "kissin' cousin," for he's the author's 6th cousin, twice removed.

However, his contribution to the betterment of the world just may be more important and of greater impact than that of any presidents, scientists, athletes, or entertainers.

He is David Evans Strickler, a descendant of Conrad, a brother of our Heinrich. What did he do? He invented the banana split.

While working as an apprentice pharmacist at Tassel's Pharmacy, 805 Ligonier Street in downtown Latrobe, PA, the 23 year old invented the popular soda fountain treat in 1904. He supposedly was inspired by watching soda jerks ply their trade while he was visiting in Atlantic City. The sundae caught on with the students at nearby St. Vincent's College and word quickly spread.

The price? Ten cents—twice the price of other sundaes.

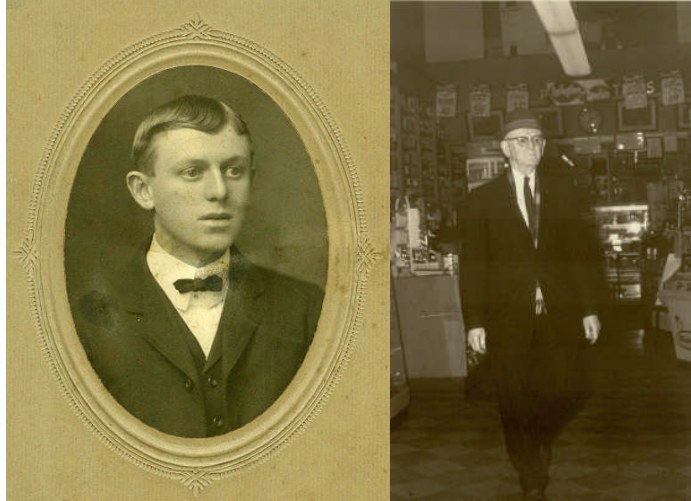
The city of Latrobe recognized the invention with a centennial celebration in 2004, the same year that the National Ice Cream Retailers Association certified Latrobe as the birthplace of the delicacy. Several other cities had claimed the honor. Walgreen's Drug Store chain is credited with creating national interest in the sundae.

Young Strickler eventually bought the drug store, renaming it Strickler's Pharmacy.

He later graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in pharmacy and still later became an optometrist. It is believed that he also designed and patented the classic glass serving dish for the sundae, known as a boat, originally made by Westmoreland Glass Co., in Grapeville, PA, which continued to do so until 1985.

Strickler sold the business in 1965, having continued to make banana splits until then. He died in 1971 at age 90. His last surviving child died in 2009; there are no known heirs. A project is underway in Latrobe to restore the drug store, now closed, and add a community museum in an adjacent building.

David Evans Strickler
Ca. 1904 Ca. 1971
Inside his Drug Store
Latrobe Area Historical Society Collection



Strickler's Pharmacy
805 Ligonier Street, Latrobe, PA
Dates of Photographs Unknown
From Facebook.com/Strickler Store Project



Just in case you've forgotten, or, perish the thought, never savored one, on the left is Dave's creation. Note that the dish appears to be metal, not Dave's glass type, on the right, which did not have the pedestal.



And so that you can emulate Dave, here is the recipe.

Traditional Banana Split Recipe

1/2 cup scoop vanilla ice cream

1/2 cup scoop chocolate ice cream

1/2 cup scoop strawberry ice cream

1 large ripe banana

2 tablespoons chocolate syrup (or Hot Fudge)

2 tablespoons strawberry ice cream topping (or fresh strawberries)

2 tablespoons crushed pineapple

2 tablespoons wet walnut ice cream topping

whipped cream and cherries

From www.banana.com

Traditionally, the pineapple sauce goes over the strawberry ice cream, the chocolate sauce goes over the vanilla ice cream, and the strawberry sauce goes over the chocolate ice cream. And usually, the whipped cream covers the entire concoction, not just the top of each scoop. Go on; forget the calories!

BURSK'S GROCERY

This photograph on the left is of an advertisement from perhaps the 1880s for Bursk's Grocery Store, 17 East King Street, Lancaster. It is not known in what publication it appeared. The ad is a 16 by 11 framed cardboard and was auctioned in January, 2011 by Morphy Auctions, Denver, PA, and fetched \$402.50. The ad on the right, from an unknown source and of an unknown date, is from Hattie's scrapbook. Note the address change from 17 to 18 East King Street (typo?). "D. S." was Daniel Summy Bursk, Calvin's father-in-law; and "J. S." was Daniel's brother, John S., who later left the grocery business and became the treasurer of Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA. One of Daniel's sons was Edward C. who was taken into the grocery business at age 25 by his father and died of typhoid fever at age 26. Another son, J. Howard, was a partner with his father but left to go into the wholesale sugar business. For many years the business was known as Bursk and Son. The business began in 1860 when Daniel and J. S. opened a store at 109 E. King Street, moving in 1865 to 17 E. King Street when Daniel bought out J. S. Daniel sold the store and retired in 1917.

Bursk's Grocery Store Ads

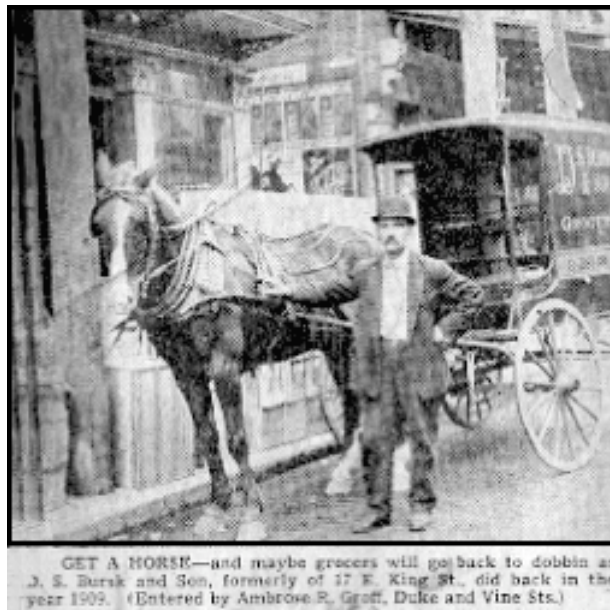
Ca. 1880
From Auctionflex.com

Date Unknown
James C. Strickler Collection



This photograph, dated 1942, from Hattie's scrapbook, is of the delivery wagon of the D. S. Bursk Grocery Store in 1909. The gentleman is unknown.

Delivery Wagon of D. S. Bursk Grocery Store, 1909
1942 Newspaper Photograph
James S. Strickler Collection



CALVIN, NOT HIS INSURANCE COMPANY'S FAVORITE POLICYHOLDER

Calvin was just plain snake-bit!

Lightening Strike at His Home

This scare was transcribed from a newspaper article of August 11, 1895, from Hattie's scrapbook. The article is cut off below the last line. Thus, there may be more of the story.

STRUCK BY LIGHTENING

A little after 11 o'clock, another storm swept over the city. The lightening was more vivid than before. A few minutes after the storm opened the residents of ??? were startled by a vivid ?????? sharpest report that we ???? heard. Nearly everybody imagined that his own house had been struck, ??? morning it was learned the the ??? struck the chimney of Mr. C. R. Strickler on Chestnut street, ???? third.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS OUT

?? Strickler was sitting in his library ?????. Quick as a flash all the lights inn his house were extinguished. Looking out a window, Mr. Strickler saw ???? on the roof, and

immediately???? that the house had been struck. ??? examination, this morning, revealed the fact that bolt had struck the chimney, and tore out about half the???? down to the roof. The bricks fell ??? roof and in the yard. One brick was thrown violently against the closed ??? of Mrs. Eckman's house, next ???, making a dent in the wood. No other damage was done except that the electric light connections were ??? out. They were replaced today. It was a severe shock to everybody in the neighborhood.

**

Arson Fire at His Hardware Store Warehouse

The following article was transcribed from, probably, a Columbia newspaper, of November 28, 1919. It, too, is from Hattie's scrapbook. Unfortunately, the clipping is not the entire article.

COLUMBIA'S FIREBUG WAS AGAIN AT WORK

EARLY MORNING BLAZE ON THANKSGIVING

WORK OF INCENDIARY

Valuable Property in Grave danger—Warehouse and Frame Stables Destroyed or Damaged—Loss Several Thousand Dollars—Effective Work of the Firemen

Valuable property on Locust street, between Second and Third street, was saved through an act of Providence early Thursday morning, when the wind shifted to the west and drove back the fire which was rapidly advancing to the rear of three business places.

The fire, which was unquestionably of incendiary origin, and was one of a series started by Columbia's unknown firebug, was the worst that has occurred in the Borough for a long time, and it was only through the shifting of the wind and the very efficient service of the firemen that prevented one of the worst conflagrations that has ever occurred here.

The Fire Discovered

About 1:20 o'clock Thursday morning several persons detected an odor of smoke in the vicinity of Third and Locust streets. Night watchman Frank J. Blair and several young men were eating lunch in the Victory restaurant and noticed the odor of smoke. Gong outside Mr. Blair met Mrs. Welsh who told the office that a small fire was in progress in Alley I below Third street. Constable Blair immediately notified the Columbia Telephone exchange and an alarm was sounded. However, in the meantime, the flames broke out and leaping high in the air, illuminated the heavens. This was noticed by many persons.

A Stubborn Blaze

The firemen, summoned by the alarm, responded promptly with their apparatus, and soon several streams of water were playing on the burning building. The blaze was stubborn and the hardest kind of work was necessary to combat the flames. The firemen, aided by a shifting of the wind, were successful in their efforts, and prevented the flames

from advancing in the direction of Locust street. After an hour's work the flames were under control and soon afterward were entirely extinguished.

Where the Fire Started

That the fire was of incendiary origin there appears to be no doubt. An investigation made yesterday morning leads to the belief that the fire was started in a small frame stable in the rear of Blank's cigar store and bowling alleys, owned by S. H. Purple. From there the flames communicated with the warehouse of Mr. Strickler, below, thence to the Strickler stable. The interior of the Purple structure is badly charred and the warehouse is a complete wreck. In the latter building Mr. Strickler had stored cement, plaster, pipe fittings and other hardware supplies, all of which is a total loss.

**

The following account of the fire is from the *Lancaster Daily Examiner* of November 28, 1919, and is a bit more complete than the one above.

FIRE AT COLUMBIA RUINS WAREHOUSE

Thanksgiving Blaze Causes Damage of \$15,000 to Strickler Property

Special to the "Examiner"

Columbia, Nov. 28---Fire of undetermined origin, presumably incendiary, was discovered shortly after one o'clock Thursday morning in the frame warehouse on Alley I, between Locust and Cherry streets, belonging to Calvin R. Strickler, a hardware dealer of 242 Locust street. The fire had gained a great deal of headway before being discovered and communicated to properties on the West and East sides of the warehouse. Four properties were destroyed and with the contents of the Strickler, warehouse, the loss will probably reach \$15,000 which is covered by insurance.

Thousands of dollars worth of property, facing on Locust street, and within 20 feet of the burning structures was saved from destruction by the work of the Columbia volunteer fire department, which was aided by the wind shifting, driving the heat and flames across the alley toward Cherry street.

The flames were discovered in the Strickler warehouse, which is built against the rear of the store, from which it is separated by a frame building, in which Mr. Strickler keeps his oils and paints. The firemen kept the flames out of the paint and oil building.

On the West side stood a brick stable and a brick building, both the property of David H. Mellinger, of Creswell, which were leased to Mr. Strickler. The brick building adjoined the stable and stood within 20 feet of the Mellinger apartment building, Nos. 236, 238, and 240 Locust street. It was used by Mr. Strickler as a warehouse and tinshop.

The stable was connected with the warehouse, in which the fire started, by a frame shed which conveyed the flames to the stable. The latter contained Mr. Strickler's horse which was rescued.

On the east side of the warehouse stood a frame shed belonging to S. Howard Purple. In the shed were two automobiles belonging to Christian W. Hoover, a rural mail carrier,

and John L. Purple. The Hoover machine was gotten out in safety, but the top took fire before it could be run from the alley. The shed was built close to the rear of the bowling alleys attached to the Blank Bros. cigar store. The large frame window was burned from the end of the building.

Next to the Purple properties stands a large two-story brick building belonging to Chickies Rock Lodge, No. 307, Loyal Order of Moose, and separated from the home by 20 feet. Several of the window frames were burned out of the building. This building was occupied by Henry C. Curnow, manufacturer of mops. Considerable of his stock and raw material was damaged by the flames that found their way into the building through the windows.

The large two-story brick stable and garage of Councilman D. C. Denney, across the alley from the burning structures, took fire as did the fence. The flames were extinguished before much damage was sustained. Mr. Denney, who lives on Cherry street, was one of the first on the scene and with a garden hose kept the woodwork of his building well saturated with water.

Two large cables, one belonging to the Columbia Telephone Co. and the other to the Bell Telephone Co. were burned through by the flames, putting a number of phones out of business. Repairs were started at daylight.

**

According to proceedings chronicled in the *Lancaster Law Review*, Volume 37, Clayton Kise and George Murr were convicted of arson for the fire.

After the fire, Calvin relocated his warehouse to the opposite side of Locust Street in the low building in the middle of the photograph.

Calvin's Hardware Store Warehouse #2
September 25, 2010
Photograph by James C. Strickler



Burglary at His Hardware Store

The following transcription, from Hattie's scrapbook, is of an account from an unknown newspaper of a burglary at Calvin's hardware store. It apparently occurred sometime in October of 1921.

ROBBER PAYS VISIT TO STRICKLER'S STORE

Strickler's hardware store, No 242 Locust street, was entered by a robber shortly after midnight last night. Entrance was gained by cutting out the glass in the sash of a window of the warehouse in the rear of the store. The workshop was then entered where a pair of shears was procured with which a stout wire screen was cut from the door leading from the warehouse to the store. With a nail driven into the wooden handle of a fork the robber was able to ream through the opening in the door and raise the hook from the staple. The only thing missing is a ???? revolver taken from a show case in the front of the store. The robbery was discovered this morning by Charley Ross when he opened for business.

**

Another newspaper story about the burglary is this one, also from Hattie's scrapbook. Part of the last paragraph is torn, preventing precise transcription.

THIEVES SMASHED GLASS DOOR OF A HARDWARE STORE

Bold Robbery in the Early Morning

TOOK REVOLVERS AND KNIVES

OPERATED IN THE GLARE OF AN ELECTRIC LIGHT

Thieves Broke Glass in Door of C. R. Strickler's Hardware Store, They Entered and Quickly Helped Themselves to Cutlery and Revolvers—They Escaped

An unusually bold robbery occurred at an early hour this morning when thieves entered the hardware store of Calvin R. Strickler, No. 242 Locust street. The thieves were exceptionally daring committing their deed in the glare of an electric light.

About 3 o'clock the family of M. M. Bernard, residing next door were awakened by the noise of crashing glass. Mrs. Bernard hastily arose and looking out of the window toward Watt & Shand's store saw the forms of the thieves reflected in the plate glass windows.

They appeared to be in the store room, just inside the door. Night Watchman Snyder was up the street on his beat and it is the supposition that the thieves had waited until he passed the store and had gotten a considerable distance away before smashing the glass of the front door.

The watchman was summoned to the place by a whistle sounded by a son of Mr. Bernard. When the officer reached the store the thieves had already decamped with their plunder. They worked quickly and were seen running down Locust street and turning over South Second street.

An examination showed that the thieves had smashed the glass in the door with a heavy piece of iron, on the end of which was a heavy burr. This was found lying at the door. It is believed that they secured the implement from a pile of scrap at one of the rolling mills. After smashing the glass it was only the work of a second to reach inside and turn the knob of the lock. Just inside is a glass show case containing small weapons and cutlery. Opening the door of the case the thieves helped themselves quite liberally.

This morning Mr. Strickler made an examination and found that the thieves had secured plunder to the value of about \$40. They took seven Ives-Johnson revolvers, two razors, and a number of pocket knives. Nothing else was disturbed. Constable Wittick was summoned and is now working on the case. ???? is reported that about 6 o'clock a ???? was about town offering revolvers and knives for sale, but when the constable investigated he could get no description of the man nor could he learn ???? what direction he had gone.

**

Additional information on the above described incident is contained in the following entry about a burglary at Calvin's home.

Burglary at His Home

On election night, November 9, 1921, the home of Calvin and Harriet in Columbia was robbed and ransacked. The transcription below is of an account of the incident from an unknown newspaper, from Hattie's scrapbook. Note that the story refers to a burglary several weeks prior at Calvin's hardware store which is the subject of the entry on the preceding page. The mention adds to the hardware store story, but note the contradictions re what was stolen from the store.

Sneak Thief Robs House

During the absence of the family of C. R. Strickler from their home on Chestnut street, Tuesday night, a sneak thief entered the house by raising a window that had been left unlocked. The house was thoroughly ransacked and \$17 in cash was taken from a small book that the thief found in a bureau drawer on the second floor. The robbery was discovered by Mrs. Strickler when she returned home and went to the second floor. Several weeks ago a thief visited Mr. Strickler's store on Locust street and made away with about \$60. Mr. Strickler had forgotten to place the money in the safe when he closed for the evening. After supper he thought of it and went to the store to put the cash away. He found a thief had made away with the money during his absence....

And Yet Another Home Burglary

The squib below, apparently from a Columbia newspaper of May 14, 1933, also from Hattie's scrapbook, suggests that there was another burglary at the home, this one after Calvin's death.

ENTER PROPERTY

Patrolman Joseph Smith has obtained the names of about 20 boys who are charged with trespassing at the Strickler home, 329 Chestnut street, and also breaking into the house. Further prosecution is pending.

And His Life Insurance Company Wasn't Too Wild About Him, Either

This little escapade was transcribed from a newspaper article of June 1, 1895, from Hattie's scrapbook. The middle portion of the article was cut and pasted in the scrapbook with the loss of several lines, preventing accurate transcription.

Disastrous Ending of a Walk

The fine weather of Sunday induced a large amount of promenading. Not only were the sidewalks of Columbia well trampled but many pedestrians meandered over the hills and even across the big bridge. Among the latter were Dr. W. A. Borlen and Mr. Calvin Strickler. These gentlemen wandered on down the river until they came to the lock about a mile below the bridge. The spirit of exploration still possessing them, they wandered on to the sloping boards overhanging the rushing waters of the canal. They looked dry and pleasant, but they in reality were a snare equal to the far famed banana peel, and no sooner had the surface received the light weight of the jolly light weight doctor than surface, doctor, and mud slid smoothly into the water ??????. This was freely given and in a twinkling both pedestrians were splashing. With thoughts of the dangers of being drawn under the lock came haste in movements toward land. The land and the goodly house of mine host McLaughlin were finally reached in safety and an account of stock taken. Mr. Strickler has requested his many friends to say nothing about it, but among them is a newspaper man.

DAN STRICKLER'S SHENENIGANS

Although this book chronicles the Stricklers only through the three children of Alfred and Lizzie, these two stories about Dan, their grandson, are too good to omit.

His Bicycle Accident

This story is from a newspaper of August 18, 1906, from Hattie's scrapbook.

BOY VIOLENTLY THROWN

From His Bicycle and Severely Injured

On Saturday Daniel Strickler, second son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Strickler, Chestnut street, rode out to the country on his bicycle. On returning, he came down a steep hill on the Mifflin or Norwood road. He was carrying a package. He lost control of his bicycle and was thrown forward with great violence on his face, right on the rough and stony road.

Mrs. J. Moore, living nearby, was the first to notice the accident and render assistance. She helped him to rise, brushed off the dust and tried to comfort him. She assisted him to get into the market wagon of Mrs. Kauffman, who brought him to town to his home, when the family physician was summoned to dress his injuries. His face is badly cut in several places, and a great piece of skin was lacerated or scraped off by the stones. No bones were broken, and it is thought that no scars will result.

In his memoirs, Dan provided his side of the story.

Once I remember taking a bicycle ride to a surrounding county. As I passed the country home of poet Lloyd Mifflin at Norwood about a mile from Columbia, he and his cousin Martha were standing by the entrance gate to their place, and Miss Martha asked me to stop at a neighbor's house up the road and get some potatoes to bring back to her, saying she would give me a dime. On the way back I lost control of my bike and the potatoes went flying out of the basket and I, too, went over the handlebars when my bike hit a boulder. I fell on my face and head, becoming quite badly injured. Later when Lloyd and Miss Martha visited they decided to give me a quarter instead of the dime for the disastrous errand.

His Snake Adventure

The following anecdote was transcribed from an unknown Columbia, PA, newspaper from August, 1912.

COLUMBIA BOY KILLS VERY LARGE BLACKSNAKE

Daniel Strickler, aged fifteen years, son of C. R. Strickler, the hardware merchant at No. 242 Locust Street, killed one of the largest blacksnakes ever seen around this part of the country. Daniel and his brother Harold, aged fourteen years, went to York county on Thursday to spend the day with their grandmother. There they were joined by their cousin, Elizabeth Gipe, of York. The children went fishing and on their way home along the North Central railroad they found their way blocked by a snake which raised its head in defiance. Harold and the little girl ran but Daniel, who is a Boy Scout, was game, and made an attack on the reptile striking it over the head with his fishing rod. The snake was stunned in such a manner that Daniel had but little difficulty to crush its head. He carried the snake to the home of his grandmother and then brought it to Columbia to show his friends. The snake measured six feet three inches in length and weighed four pounds.

The kids were visiting grandma Lizzie at Rosevale about ten years after the death of Alfred. Cousin Elizabeth, daughter of Susie and Morgan, was about 13

years old. The fishing probably was in Kreutz Creek. The North Central Railroad, later the Pennsylvania (Frederick Division), was the line that ran from York to Wrightsville through Kreutz Creek Valley and Rosevale.

EISENHOWER/STRICKLER RELATIONSHIP MYTH

An interesting story is told about John Strickler and President Eisenhower.

Eisenhower's mother, of course, was a Strickler (emphasis supplied), and he had been sworn in "on a **Strickler** (emphasis supplied) Bible," as the story is told. So naturally the River Brethren felt a special kinship with him, and he, apparently, agreed to meet with John Strickler and others from the group. This was in the most volatile days of the Cold War, when the nation was in the grip of a general fear of nuclear war, and people were building back yard bomb shelters and what not. John Strickler is said to have given the President his personal reassurance that he need have no fear, because God had placed "an invisible shield" around him, and would protect him no matter what. One wonders what the hero of WW II, president, and national icon made of this tall, thin, white-bearded, simple country prophet in plain clothes and the reassurance he offered on this occasion. From: *A Stough Ahnentafel*, by Hugo W. Schroeder; <http://www.genealogy.com/users/s/c/h/Hugo-W-Schroeder/FILE/0006page.html>. Unedited except for the emphases.

This story (including the meeting and the Bible) has been debunked by family historians. The Eisenhower family tree on the Dwight D. Eisenhower Museum web site shows that the mother of the former president and general was Ida Elizabeth Stover. And, it shows that for three previous generations on her mother's side, the family names were Link, Schneider, and Burckhardt.

However, there is what might be called a "wishful thinking" coincidence that could lead to the Strickler relationship story. According to the Eisenhower Museum tree, Ida's father was a Simon P. Stover, of Augusta County, VA, the son of a Daniel Stover, born about 1780, also of Augusta County. While the Eisenhower Museum tree does not have a wife for Simon, research by the author indicates that she was a Mary Hanna, (1781-1852), also of Augusta County. The coincidence is that in Strickler genealogy, an Elizabeth Strickler, born, about 1768, grand-daughter of Abraham, the original immigrant who moved to Virginia, was married to a Daniel Stover. However, the years of birth of Mary and Elizabeth and that Daniel was not a widower precludes the two Daniels from being the same and, thus, creating an Eisenhower-Strickler relationship.

GIPE ANDIRONS

These andirons (either brass or copper), perhaps one hundred years old, or so, are from the home of Morgan and Susie at 710 South George Street, York. The house had a fireplace in virtually every room.

They were acquired by the author from the estate of Elizabeth Rudisill Beadle.

Andirons from Home of Morgan Eugene Gipe
February, 2011
Photograph by the Author



GIPE, MORGAN E. AND THE YORK ROTARY CLUB

In 1911, a Rotary Club was established in Harrisburg. York businessman Morgan E. Gipe attended a Harrisburg Club meeting as a guest in 1915. The courteous and friendly treatment given him by the members of the Harrisburg club impressed him with the conviction that such fine fellowship and enthusiasm must have back of it ideals helpful to the professional and business leaders of a community. Morgan commended the club on its splendid spirit and voiced a desire for a similar club in York. An organizational meeting was held in York on March 31, 1916 and the charter meeting, with 27 members present, was held on April 17. Gipe was elected the first president, and dues that first year were \$10 a member. From the website of the Rotary Club of York, edited.

HEIDI

Not in our line, but, nevertheless, a Strickler worth mentioning is Hans Jakob “Jakob” Strickler (1791-1853), a 4th cousin six times removed of the author. He was a school master in Hirzel where one of his students was Johanna Louise Heusser (1827-1901) who after marriage became Johanna Spyri and wrote *Heidi's Years of Wandering and Learning*, abbreviated to *Heidi*. This novel, written in 1880, about the events in the life of a Swiss orphan girl, is among the best known works of Swiss literature.

The school house, the only one in town, where she, apparently one of 14 or so students, studied under Jacob from 1833 to 1841, was built in 1660 and served as

a school until 1933. In 1981, it was restored and now houses the Johanna Spyri Museum.

Jacob began his teaching career in the fall of 1808, at the ripe old age of 17, after taking a month-long training course in September on a new teaching method that followed the principles of Heinrich Pestalozzi's newly developed educational theories. Jacob's father, Hans Heinrich, had begun teaching in the same building in 1786, but was forced to retire when his eyesight began to fail. We can assume that Jacob had some influence on Johanna and, thus, indirectly contributed to the book.

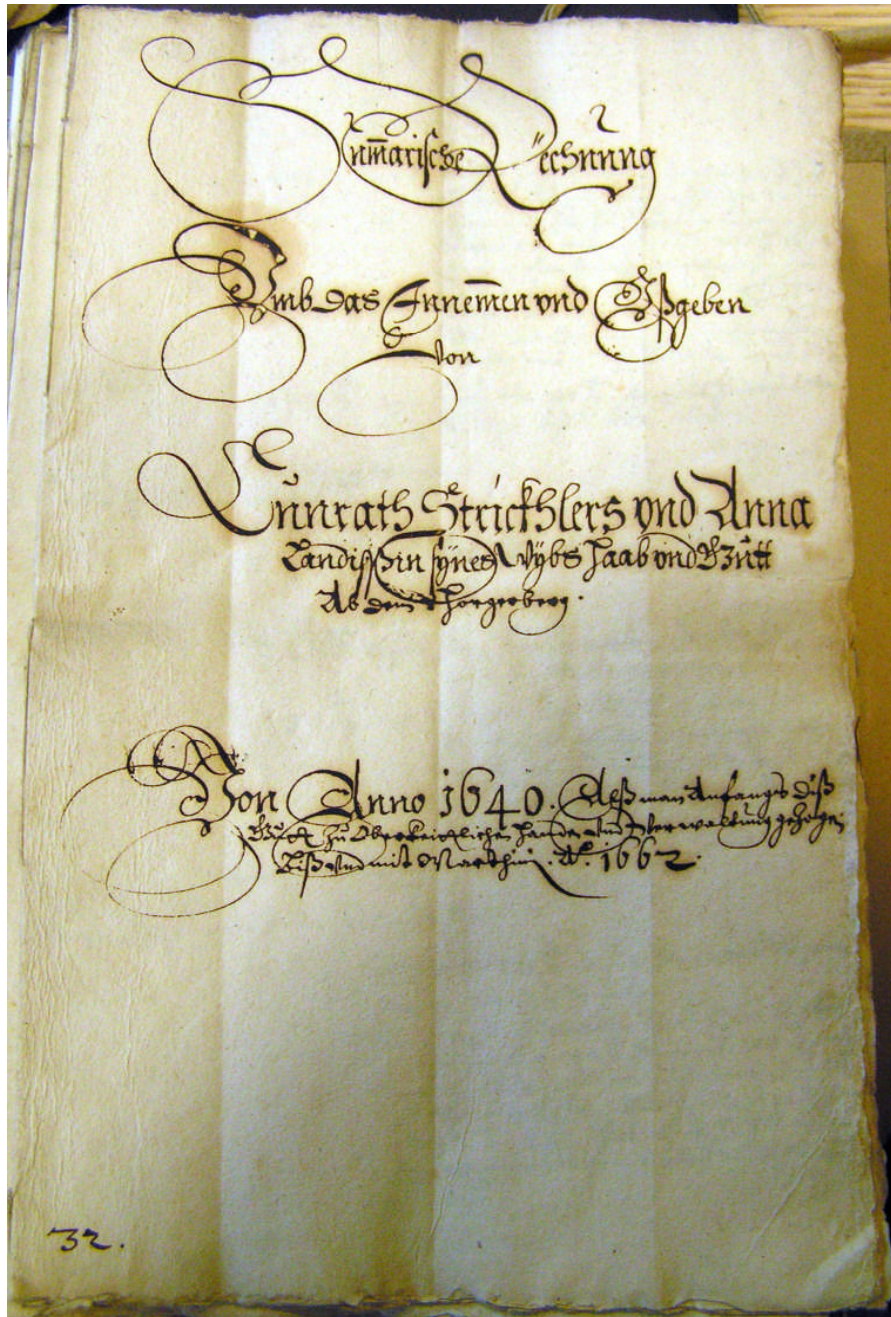
Johanna Spyri Museum, Hirzel
Photograph Date Unknown
From Google Images



KONRAD'S PROPERTY CONFISCATION

As noted in the paragraph about Konrad at the beginning of Chapter II, his property was confiscated and he was jailed for his heretic beliefs.

On the following page is a copy of the original "official" document re the confiscation. It was photographed by Frank Duff on August 19, 2010, at the Staatsarchiv Zürich. It, one of about 150 pages for Konrad, is in a collection of records in Section F, specifically identified as "The Confiscated Estate Records and Accounts of the Anabaptists." There are about 80 files of confiscated estates of Anabaptists, according to Duff.



Following is a “loose”, he says, translation by Jay Strickler: *Complete accounting statement regarding surplus and taxes applicable to the belongings [house and property] of Conrad Strickler and his wife Anna Landis as confiscated by the authorities for the period 1640 to November 11, 1662.*

KREUTZ CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Kreutz Creek Presbyterian Church, formerly the Kreutz Creek Reformed Church, built in 1860 and obviously well-maintained, is where Alfred and Lizzie were married on December 26, 1865. It is located at 85 Old Church Lane, just east of Hallam, and just to the west of Kreutz Creek Road, which connects Route 462 with the Route 30 Expressway.

The first church, a log structure, was built about 1745, followed by its replacement, a limestone building, in 1777. Both were built on nearby sections of the grounds. As a "Union Church," both a German Reformed and a Lutheran congregation met there. Interestingly, on a 1790 map of York County from an unknown source, it is identified as "Calvinist Meeting." After it was sold to the Presbyterians in the early 1900s, the other original denominations built separate churches in Hallam.

Kreutz Creek Presbyterian Church

September 25, 2010
Photograph by the Author

June 13, 2011
Photograph by James C. Strickler



This organ (also in the photograph on the right, preceding page), has been in operation since the church was built in 1860. Thus, it probably was played for Alfred's and Lizzie's wedding in 1865. Wonder if Mendelssohn's and Wagner's traditional wedding marches were played? The organ is located at the back wall of the chancel, the so-called "East Wall." The air now is electrically pumped; bummer!

Organ at Kreutz Creek Presbyterian Church
June 13, 2011
Photograph by James C. Strickler



Many Stricklers and Rubys are buried in two adjacent cemeteries, known as the Old and New Kreutz Creek Cemeteries. The first burial was in 1780, and, it is said that there are several graves of friendly Indians who apparently chose to be buried there.

New Kreutz Creek Cemetery
Date of Photograph Unknown
From FindaGrave Website



Old Kreutz Creek Cemetery
Date of Photograph Unknown
From FindaGrave Website



LEADER, GOVERNOR GEORGE MICHAEL

Does an in-law count for bragging rights? George M. Leader (1918-), a native of York County and governor of Pennsylvania from 1955-1959, was married to Mary Jane Strickler (1918-2011) which makes him a 4th cousin in law, once removed, of the author. Mary Jane was a 4th great granddaughter of Heinrich, Jr., and Anna Beidler Strickler. Her 3rd great grandfather was Jacob, brother of our John, both sons of Heinrich, Jr., and Anna. Governor and Mrs. Leader are responsible for the repair and restoration of the cemetery on the original West Hempfield Township farm (See Chapter IV).

Mary Jane Strickler Leader and George Michael Leader
Fall, 2010

From www.countrymeadows.com



LIFE IN 1911

In 1911, one hundred years before the writing of this book, the country was 135 years old, William Howard Taft was president, and the population was just over 93 million. The Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire in New York City took 146 lives. The unemployment rate was 6.7, and a first class letter cost two cents. Ernest Rutherford discovered the structure of the atom, and Thomas Morgan demonstrated that inherited factors are represented by genes placed at specific sites along a chromosome. Marie Curie was awarded the Nobel Prize for her discovery of radium and polonium. The Philadelphia A's won the World Series, and the first Indy 500 was won by Ray Harroun, driving a Marmon, with an average speed of 74.59 mph. But there was no Super Bowl!

Lizzie, then 66 years old and a River Brethren, was 9 years a widow, and still living on and managing the farm.

Calvin, operating his hardware store, was 45 years old, married to Hattie for 17 years, with four children ranging in age from eight to 16. Ed, age 52, and Anna, childless, had been married for 16 years. Susie, age 39, and Morgan had been married for 15 years and had three daughters, ages 13, 8, and 2.

And,

- The average life expectancy for men was 47 years
- 14 percent of homes had a bathtub
- 8 percent of homes had a telephone
- There were 8,000 cars and 144 miles of paved roads in the US
- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower
- The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour
- The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year
- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year
- More than 95 percent of all births took place at home
- Ninety percent of all doctors had no college education. Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and the government as "substandard"

- Sugar cost four cents a pound
- Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen
- Coffee was fifteen cents a pound
- Most women washed their hair only once a month and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo
- Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering their country for any reason
- The five leading causes of death were:
 1. Pneumonia and influenza
 2. Tuberculosis
 3. Diarrhea
 4. Heart disease
 5. Stroke (Apoplexy)
- The American flag had 45 stars
- The population of Las Vegas, Nevada, was 30
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented
- There was neither a Mother's Day nor a Father's Day
- Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write and 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school
- Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help

The above statistics were provided by Les Noel, a family friend of the author; slightly edited.

LIFE ON THE FARM

The following letters from Alfred provide some insights into goings on at Rosevale. They are from the Joseph P. Brillhart collection and were transcribed by him from originals formerly in the possession of his mother. It is noted that Alfred had learned the protocol of placing the location and date in the upper right hand corner of his letters. However, his use of punctuation, especially periods, leaves a bit to be desired. Note in the close the abbreviation for "truly." It appears that the "wealthy Hellam Township farmer" did have some financial difficulties.

The first letter was to an unknown recipient.

Hellam
Sept 2nd/74

Dear Sir

You wrote you had engaged a pup for me I would like to know if the price is to brisk I I haven him please let me know what he sells him at I'll let you know then if ill take him We are all well and busy at the beans and peas and we don't know when we are coming out we are to busy now As I haven't much to say it's getting late I had a load of peaches to York to day and will make too trips tomorrow we are shipping them all to Baltimore to one firm as they run So no more Milt I want you to have plenty of pork when we come to the pork country and slapjacks

Yours Truly

A D Strickler

Write as soon as Possible

**

The following four letters from Alfred to his brother-in-law, Milton Ruby, indicate some business dealings. Note in the last letter that Alfred refers to Milton as "Brother." According to Joe Brillhart: . . . Milton pretty much carried on his dad's work traditions, and I think he was a pretty good money manager and entrepreneur, but maybe not quite at the level of Sam (I). He was a farmer and actively involved in the sale of farm produce both at York & at the Woodsborough farm. He was a money lender and borrower (at least with the Strickler family), and we have notes that he hauled ore from one or more of forge ore banks in the area (probably a winter job). Slightly edited.

Hellam
Feb 19 1897

Milton Ruby

Dear Sir

The price of clover seed at the stores is from 5.60 to 5.75. They have different prices that's what they sell it as now I have mine engage at P W Brrgs I got good seed last year from him all well

Yours

A D Strickler

**

Fby 18th 1901

Mr. Ruby

Dear Sir

Being as I had to take that Mill property of Dosch I can not pay any on your note or if you must have it I think I can get some please I will try to pay the Insurance co off If possibly can.

Yours t

A D Strickler

**

April 1 1902

Milton Ruby

Dear Sir

Enclosed find check for one hundred dollars I am short I have not sold anything got my tobacer Wheat and Cattle yet you must wait about thirty days or so or I might make it in a week or so and if I get the money that's promised me I can pay the balance this week yet I don't think I get to York this week

Yours t

A. D. Strickler

A B. (?)

Don't send the Sheriff

**

Wrightsville, Pa

April 30 1897

Brother

Dear Sir

All well and lots of work and worry And in regards to Zeiglers we have the one half of our money and the rest promised by June faithfully promised but promises not always hold out Enclosed find note endorsed

Yours trs

A.D. Strickler

**

This letter is to an unknown recipient.

Wrightsville

Sept 14 1901

Dear Sir

I would like if you would give me the particklers of your man What kind of man he is and his family if they are respectable people and if they would suit me in every way and how old his boy and girl is and if they are good for anything so that I could depend on them I like to hire the boy if he is old enough to work with horses etc Please let me know by Monday Mail then I come up to your place if you go with me to see the man These are three men Send me word they wanted to hire but if I could get a man and a boy that would suit me best. And the girl we had work to by the day if she wanted to work

Yours t

A. D. Strickler

Please mail before noon then I get mail at Eve Monday

LIZZIE'S INTERESTING ESTATE

The newspaper articles about Alfred's death refer to him as a "wealthy" farmer, and family lore concurs. At his death (1902), presumably his supposedly large estate, including Rosevale, would have been left to Lizzie. Unfortunately, neither his will (if he had one), nor his estate inventory is available from the York County Archives. However, Lizzie's estate inventory from 1928 is available (no will

is recorded), and it shows a gross estate of \$959.50, comprised of furniture, crops, and \$192.00 in the bank. Hmmmmmm! Family lore is that at some time, Mansion Ed acquired a half-interest (or more) in the farm (his siblings Susie and Calvin had died). Nevertheless, the question is “What happened to Alfred and Lizzie’s wealth?”

LIZZIE’S SPINDLE BED

This walnut (?) spindle bed, according to Jim Rudisill, was Lizzie’s. It is not known whether it was hers as a child that she took to her marriage or whether she acquired it after her marriage.

Spindle beds, so called because of the spiraled effect of the posts that frame the bed, are thought to have originated at the beginning of the 19th century. They are also known as Jenny Lind spindle beds because of the singer’s fondness for and promotion of them.

It is interesting to note that the dimensions of this bed are but 69” long by 35” wide. The inside length is only 67” long. A custom made box spring and mattress will be required for it to be usable.

Note the metal spring. On the inside of one side board is stenciled in black, “J Feiser Wrightsville,” apparently the manufacturer—perhaps of the entire bed? The York County Heritage Trust has no record of him or a company of that name.

The bed was acquired by the author from the estate of Elizabeth Rudisill Beadle.

Lizzie’s Spindle Bed
February, 2011
Photographs by the Author



LIZZIE'S TRAVAILS

The transcription below is of a letter written on October 24, 1885 (probably), by Lizzie, then age 40, to her brother, Milton. It was mailed from Wrightsville with a three cent stamp affixed in the upper left hand corner (yes, left hand corner) of the envelope. It was addressed simply to Milton Ruby, Woodsboro, Frederick, CO., Md. The letter details a recent family misfortune. Would that Lizzie could have foreseen the future for her family: 17 years later, at her age 57, her husband's accidental death at his 58; at her age 72, the death of her daughter, Susie, at her age 45; and at her age 78, the death of her son, Calvin, at his age 56. Only her middle son, Ed, outlived her.

It would be desirable to have been able to reproduce the letter itself—especially to appreciate her nice clean penmanship. Unfortunately, even though scanning is high tech, it doesn't do justice to faint originals. The letter requires rather careful and slow reading, for spelling and punctuation marks, especially periods, apparently were not one of Lizzie's strong points. Nevertheless, not bad for an eighth grade (if that much) education. The use of "sic" for her spelling errors is omitted for ease of reading. Honestly, it is 100% accurately transcribed!

October 24

Dear Brother

We had bad luck on Fryday evening when the Frederick Train went ?. Alfred was in the Corn Field with the team just as the train was even with him thay left off the Steam and wiseled so loud and frightened the horses and Alfred run to get them and fell the horses run around and the wagon went over Alfred and nearly killed him the wagon went over him and broke his arm off nearly at the Shoulder the wagon was nearly half full of corn the Saddle horse fell over the tongue and thay him a good piece and when thay stopped they other horse fell on the Saddle horse but thay are not hurt his arm is broke verry bad it is his right arm the bone was Sticking out it is a big cut in his arm that the bone cut and he bled so bad but the doctor was here in less than no time but he is not hurt inside but his back is bruised verry bad it takes two or three men to hold him in and out of bed I was over at Levers when it happened I had just gone over then Alice came after me and Said I Shall come home Alfred was hurt So I thought I would faint before I would get home just as I came home four of the men Carried him in the house Thay had taken the Settee down in the field and laid him on and when I Seen them have him on the Settee I thought he was dead O brother think how I had to feel I said to him what will I and the children do if you die then he said we were better off then he was I thought we must part, he groanded a good bit at first we must Stay up the whole night with him and put a Cold rag on his arm it was crowded with people the whole day William and Leber are here this evening the Children are tolerable well thay have the cold a little the boys are going to school I cant write good this evening I have Lost so much Sleep already Uncle John was here this Morning and he nearly fainted when he looked at his arm This is all Show to father if he is down yet
Your only sister Lizzie

In these photographs of the south pasture of Rosevale, facing north, the railroad right-of-way is an embankment within the grove of trees in the background. That's where the train "wiseled so loud." Alfred apparently was somewhere in the pasture with his cart and horse. However, it is possible that the incident occurred in the pasture north of the right-of way.

South Pasture at Rosevale
June 13, 2011
Photographs by the Author



These two letters, from Lizzie to her brother Milton, are on different subjects from the one above, but are equally interesting for the several subjects. They also are from the Joseph P. Billhart collection and were transcribed by him from the originals formerly in the possession of his mother

November 1st 1899

My Dear Brother

I was Only (?) at York on Tuesday and had intend to come over we telephoned over there you was out at the farm Insic(?) was out driving and I nursed the baby for her She stopped at the house to tell you to come to the train I think I would better take that jud note of the Blessings if it can be transferred What do you think about it I always feel relieved when I can talk about my Troubles to some one and you are the only one. Pleas get me a half bushel of hellbarks yet if you can. Calvin wants them Alfred said you got me a bushel I will be up next week again then I will come out If I do come we cant(?) talk alone
With love from your poor Sister Please write to me

The following letter was addressed to Mr Milton Ruby Woodsborough (Now Woodsboro) Frederick County MD. Yes, it is accurately transcribed!

Dec the 10th 1884

Dear Brother

I heard that you had such pain in the beginning when you were at home Let me know wether you are over it a gain Alfred was Sick the first week all week john Stoner is poorly They don't expect him to live long any more Mother Troubles her Self so much about you

when She heard that you had Such pain it was her(?) last Fry day She Said She did not eat much Since that Thursday when you wrote that letter. That was a whole week did you receive them Photos that you and Alfred got taken he did not get his yet this is all write Soon
Your Only Sister

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYERS

Only because the author considers himself to be a knowledgeable baseball fan, well aware of the historical aspects of the game, did he check to confirm his belief that there have been no Stricklers who played big league baseball. Correct! However, there was a fellow named “Cub” Strickler who played for several teams over 11 years in the 1800s and ‘90s. But, he changed his name from Streaker to Strickler, so he doesn’t count. There have been seven Stricklers, although we don’t know if they are “true Stricklers” or “pseudo-Strickler,” who played minor league ball, alas, none with any distinction.

In the NBA, there was a William Louis Strickler who came out of the College of the Pacific and scored 4 points in one game with Portland in the 1970-71 season. The Author did not check for any Stricklers in the NFL or NHL.

MANSION ED’S INTERESTING WILL

Known in the family as “Mansion Ed” for his large home in Hallam and for his and his wife’s relative wealth, Edward Dietz Strickler (1869-1941) had no children. But, his brother, Calvin, had four children, and his sister, Susie, had three children, a total of seven nieces and nephews.

At some point during the writing of this book, the author recalled that his mother, Harriet Gipe Brenner, commenting on her inheritance from Uncle Ed, noted that the amount of the net estate was not evenly divisible by six and that she, as she felt was her lot in life, received the “short penny” amount.

Why, the author wondered, if Ed had seven nieces and nephews, was the estate apparently divided by six?

The author’s curiosity having been piqued, he obtained a copy of Ed’s will from the York County Archives.

In Article Three, Ed provides that after the payment of his debts and funeral expenses, his wife, Anna, shall receive a life income from the estate.

Article Four provides that upon the death of his wife, the *“estate shall be divided into two equal parts, one equal part thereof I give and bequeath to the following named children of my deceased brother, Calvin R. Strickler, Alfred B. Strickler, J. Harold Strickler, and Katharine R. Strickler, share and share alike, absolutely. The remaining part of my estate I give and bequeath to the children of my deceased sister, Susan Gipe, share and share alike, absolutely.”*

At the death of Ed’s wife, Anna, on October 25, 1944, there were three living children of Susan Gipe: Elizabeth, Harriet, and Clara May.

Thus, there were six beneficiaries of Ed's estate: the three Gipe girls, and the three specifically mentioned children of Calvin: Alfred B., J. Harold, and Katharine R.

Why was Daniel Bursk Strickler, son of Calvin, and a nephew of Edward Dietz Strickler, excluded?

Nancy, daughter of Dan, relates that she believes that Dan's brothers shared their inheritance with Dan.

MENNONITE BUGGY

Transportation for the Hellam Township Stricklers, other than simply horse and rider, was the buggy, probably similar to the one in the photograph on the left. It appears to be slightly different from the Amish buggy, right, that is a bit more prominent on Lancaster County highways today.

Typical Mennonite Buggy
Date of Photograph Unknown
From www.archivalcollections.com



Typical Amish Buggy
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Google Images



REVOLUTIONARY WAR

According to *Strickler's of Pennsylvania*, Henry Strickler (1750-1816), son of our Heinrich, Jr. and Anna Beidler Strickler, served in York County with Captain's Comfort's Company in 1782. There is no evidence that any other Stricklers participated in the war. In fact, their Mennonite teachings probably precluded such activity. As mentioned earlier, several Stricklers apparently were fined for their refusal to bear arms. There is no evidence that any of the war was waged over Strickler land. Stricklers apparently were not affected by the meetings in York of The Continental Congress. The delegates are known to have used Wright's Ferry to cross the Susquehanna; perhaps they stopped at Strickler farms on their way to and from York.

ROSEVALE ROCKING CHAIR

All that is known about this rocking chair is that it came from the Still House at Rosevale. It is in the possession of Susan Rudisill in the “Strickler Room” of her home in Oregon. The larger photograph on the back right corner of the desk is of Elizabeth Gipe Rudisill; the smaller one is of Susie and daughter Elizabeth. The coverlet on the bed is mentioned elsewhere in this chapter. Nothing else in the picture is of Strickler significance. Did Lizzie sit in this chair while nursing her children?

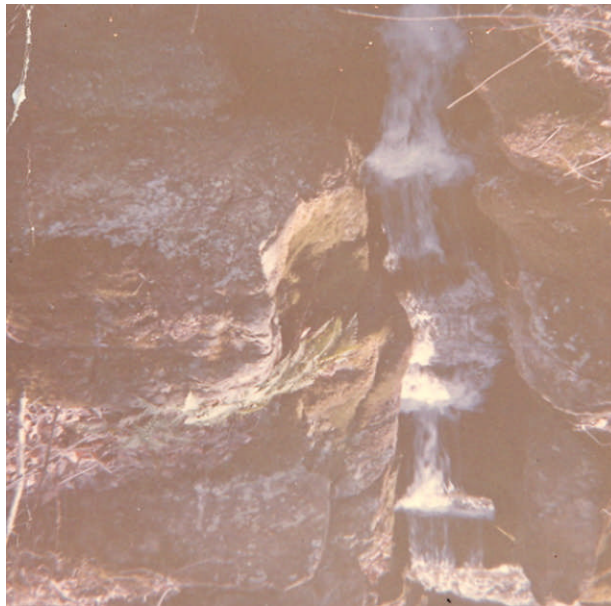
Rosevale Rocking Chair
March, 2011
Photograph by Susan Rudisill



SEVEN STEPS

This little waterfall, aptly named, is on a tributary of Kreutz Creek on Laurel Road just west of its intersection with Strickler School Lane. Laurel Road can be found on Map F, just south of the mill site indicator. This waterfall, which charmed many generations of Stricklers, may have been on the original Rosevale farm.

Seven Steps Waterfall
Date of Photograph Unknown
James Rudisill Collection

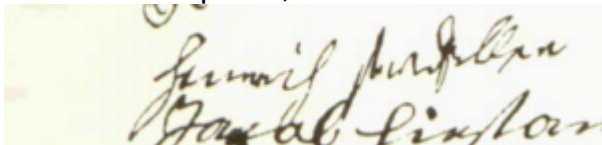


STRICKLER AUTOGRAPHS

For you philographists, below are photocopies of the signatures of five Stricklers: first, our original progenitor, Heinrich the immigrant, plus two of his descendants, owners of the Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill (See Chapter V), plus Lizzie and Alfred.

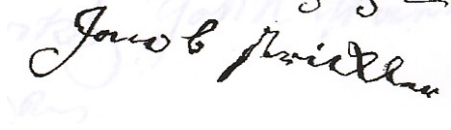
Heinrich Strickler (March 11, 1696-May 5, 1761)

From an unknown document, the copy below of the signature of Heinrich, one of the original immigrant brothers, was provided by Frank Duff. Heinrich's signature is the top one; the bottom one is that of one Jacob Treichler.



Jacob C. Strickler (June 5, 1755-June 7, 1837)

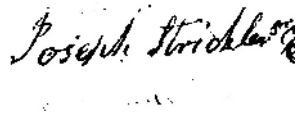
From his will, written July 28, 1834.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob C. Strickler".

Joseph Strickler (October 31, 1785-August 19, 1852)

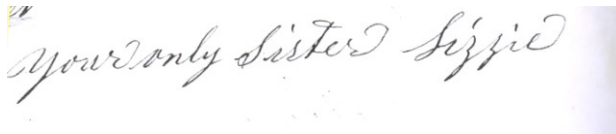
Son of Jacob C.

From his will, written July, 4, 1848.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Strickler".

Elizabeth S. Ruby Strickler March 17, 1845-January 27, 1928)

From her letter of October 24, 1885, to her brother Milton. See "Lizzie's Travails" section of this chapter.

A handwritten note in cursive script that reads "your only sister Lizzie".

Alfred Dietz Strickler (November 13, 1843-September 21, 1902)

From a letter of September 2, 1874 to an unknown recipient. See "Life on the Farm" section of this chapter

A handwritten note in cursive script that reads "Yours only A. D. Strickler".

Would you rather have these or a Mickey Mantle rookie card?

STRICKLER, CAPTAIN MATTHEW McCLUNG

Although not in our direct line (he's the author's 3rd cousin, four times removed), another Strickler worthy of mention is Captain Matthew McClung Strickler, the commander of the Lancaster County Scouts, a volunteer unit of the Union Calvary, during the Battle of Wrightsville, Sunday, June 28, 1863. The captain and his group garner seven mentions in Scott Mingus' book for their contributions to the defense of Wrightsville/Columbia. He is a descendant of a brother of our Heinrich.

STRICKLER FARMS AND TOBACCO

Like most of the farms in the area, the Strickler farms were heavy with tobacco in addition to the traditional crops. Rosevale had a large tobacco barn. Even through the mid 20th century, tobacco was big in York County, and cigar factories were a major industry. At one time, York County produced 20% of the cigars made in the United States, most in the Dallastown/Red Lion area, southeast of York. One source indicates that in 1884, 25 million cigars were shipped from that area. Another source indicates that in 1907, there were 1,200 cigar factories in York County that produced 300 million (honestly!) cigars. They were all good five cent cigars, Will. The last cigar factory in Red Lion closed at the end of May, 2011. It is not known whether any others still operate in the area. In addition to the cigar factories, a huge "cottage industry" grew up with area farm women stripping the tobacco in their homes for shipment to the factories for the actual wrapping, by hand—no machines! Local women were the primary employees of the "ceegar" factories, as southern York Countians were wont to say. An equally big companion industry was the manufacture of cigar boxes; Mansion Ed owned one such company.

STRICKLER, HENRY, THE PREACHER

Lewis Miller (1796-1882) was a carpenter and a musician in York, but most of all he was a folk artist who during his 87 years created thousands of color drawings of people, places, and events throughout not only York County but also of the world. Some six volumes of his work are held by the York County Heritage Trust.

The drawing below of Henry Strickler, the preacher, appears on page 28 of *Lewis Miller Sketches and Chronicles*. Note the garb which Jim Rudisill describes as the "funeral attire."

Henry Strickler, Preacher, 1816
From *Lewis Miller Sketches and Chronicles*
York County Historical Society, 1996



The question is which of the many of Henry, even Heinrich, Stricklers this fellow is. Narrowing it down by dates of birth and death there are two possibilities: Heinrich "Henry" (1746-1835), son of Ulrich, one of the half-brother immigrants who owned the farm in Springettsbury Township, is the most logical.

According to Frank Duff: Henry, son of Ulrich, was definitely United Brethren. He united with that church under the persuasion of neighbor Christian Newcomer and nephew Daniel Strickler. There are accounts of meetings held at Henry Strickler's house. Henry's son, Henry, as a young man was also associated with the United Brethren.

However, in 1816, Henry would have been 70 years old, and the picture, above, does not seem to be of a man that age. Frank adds: "There is a professional portrait of Bishop Henry Strickler done in the 1820's, and he had a long white beard and was much huskier.

Frank provided these references to Henry as a minister, taken from diaries:

2 June 1799 Rev. Newcomer went to Brother Henry Strickler's home in Little York where he was joined by brother Daniel Strickler who had come from Virginia. They held a prayer for the sick and then a revival for lost souls.

6 Jun 1800 I (Christian Newcomer) went home and then to brother H. (Henry) Strickler's house. His daughter is ill. I spoke and prayed with her. His wife Magdalena is also ill.

13 Jun 1800 I (Christian Newcomer) made another trip to brother Stricklers (Henry) before I returned home today to York.

14 Jul 1807: Newcomer visits at Henry Strickler's house at Stony Brook where he was well received by a large crowd.

4 Dec 1809 from Newcomer's diary: Newcomer held a meeting near Little York at the home of Henry Strickler and then at Geissman's.

Another possibility is Henry Strickler, Jr. of Rapho Township, Lancaster County (1756-1830), an active minister in the United Brethren Church. According to Duff, in 1806, he purchased land with a fellow Brethren in Hellam Township. However, he sold it in 1810. It is possible that he remained in the area after selling the land.

So, to decide who the minister in the drawing is we must accept the youthful appearance of Henry, son of Ulrich, or accept that Henry of Rapho Township stayed in the area.

STRICKLER IRON BANK

The Strickler Iron Bank (Mine) was by owned Benjamin Strickler, Jr. (1821-1893) from at least the mid 1850s until the early 1870s. It was located at, near, or, maybe now under, the Route 30 Expressway at, approximately, the intersection of Wallicks Road and Burgs Lane, across Route 462, northwest of "Stricklerville." (See map E). Ben apparently leased the property to several different operators during its time. According to an 1876 report, by then it had fallen shut and overgrown with trees and underbrush, and contains a considerable quantity of water. It covers an area of perhaps something over one-half an acre, and is thirty feet deep from the bank to the waters edge. From *Report of Progress in the District of York and Adams Counties* by Persifor Frazer, 1876. There apparently also is/was a Strickler Iron Mine just north of Luray, VA.

STRICKLER, JACOB, THE LEGISLATOR

While we can't claim any presidents in our heritage, how about a state legislator? Jacob Strickler, Jr. (1762-1812), grandson of our Heinrich, served one term in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives from 1797 through 1800 as a member of the Federalist Party. He was the son of Heinrich's third son, Jacob, and Magdalena Sherk Strickler. He was also the builder of the still-standing West Hempfield Township homestead.

STRICKLER, LIEUTENANT HARRISON MONROE

Another Strickler not in our direct line but worthy of mention is Lt. Harrison Monroe Strickler, a second great grandson of original immigrant Abraham who moved to Virginia. The Lieutenant, a Confederate officer, fought in the Battle of Wrightsville, thus waging war on his ancestors' homeland. A devout Methodist, he later became a noted evangelist.

During the Gettysburg Campaign, 19-year-old Lt. Harrison M. Strickler commanded a company of the 35th Battalion, Virginia Cavalry, a hard-riding outfit from the Loudon Valley area of Northern Virginia. Strickler and the rest of Lt. Col. Elijah V. White's boys were later to earn the nickname "White's Comanches" for their wild war cries that reminded some onlookers of the ferocious Wild West Indian tribe, and for their lightning quick raids on isolated farms.

On June 26, 1863, "Lige" White ordered Strickler's Company E to attack some distant Yankee militia on a ridge near Marsh Creek about three miles west of Gettysburg. After chasing off the enemy skirmishers, Strickler's men looted the abandoned camp of the 26th Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia before remounting and dashing into downtown Gettysburg. Firing their pistols and whopping their war cries, the men made quite an entrance.

The next day, they were part of the force that sacked the railroad intersection at Hanover Junction, PA, again driving off Union militia (this time part of the 20th PVM). After riding into downtown York on Sunday the 28th, Strickler's young cavaliers accompanied much of the battalion to Wrightsville, PA, where they skirmished with the First Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry, and then the York Invalids, a group of patients from the York U.S. Army Hospital who had grabbed weapons and marched westward to join the defenses of the river crossing.

Harrison M. Strickler was born July 6, 1843 in "old Col. Daniel Strickler's home" near Massanutten Mountain in rural Page County, Virginia. It was his grandfather's house nestled in the shadow of the imposing mountain in the lush Luray Valley. Harrison grew up in a household filled with the teachings of the Methodist Church and developed his own strong faith at an early age.

At start of Civil War he served in quartermaster's department and as a courier. In 1862 Strickler was among the recruiters in Page, Warren, and Shenandoah counties in Virginia that raised a company of cavalry. Elected as orderly sergeant of that company when it joined the 35th Battalion, Virginia Cavalry.

On June 6, 1863 Strickler was elected as the 3rd lieutenant. He fought at the Battle of Brandy Station and assumed command of his company when the Yankees captured his superior officer, Captain John H. Grabill. He proved to be a popular, and very capable, officer but never lost sight of his faith despite his military service and the shenanigans of several of his colleagues and subordinates. One fellow officer, Captain Franklin M. Myers, later wrote a history of the Comanches. In it, he wrote. "Rev. Strickler began preaching in the army.

Strickler celebrated his 20th birthday in the saddle on July 6, 1863, as White's Comanches covered the retreat of the Confederate army after its defeat at the Battle of Gettysburg. The 35th Battalion in 1864 and Lieutenant Strickler fought at the Battle of the Wilderness and later in the large cavalry battle at Trevillian Station. They were part of the so-called "Beefsteak Raid," and in efforts to stop Sheridan's "barn burners" in the Shenandoah Valley. In 1865, they helped cover the army's retreat from the Petersburg entrenchments to High Bridge during the Appomattox Campaign. By then, Captain Grabill had resumed command of Company E after being paroled in February 1865.

Lieutenant Strickler and his comrades in the 35th Battalion did not surrender at Appomattox Court House in April 1865 when Robert E. Lee formally surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia. Instead they rode away from the army, slipped through Yankee lines, and returned to their homes.

After receiving a parole from the U.S. government, Strickler returned home to Page County. On October 2, 1866, he married his sweetheart Sarah Margaret Soule (1838-1895), the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Isaac Soule.

Rev. H. Monroe Strickler spent forty years as a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Like his grandfather, he moved frequently as his assignments and charges changed. He is mentioned frequently in old newspaper accounts of revival meetings and traveled extensively as a guest preacher for retreats, church conferences, and other gatherings. His “booming voice” and captivating, authoritative speaking style made him a popular choice for these preaching opportunities.

Strickler died quietly at his home in Page County, Virginia, on May 19, 1927. Slightly edited; By Scott Mingus from <http://www.yorkblog.com/cannonball/2010/03/they-came-to-york-county-pa-1t.html>.

Lieutenant Harrison Monroe Strickler
Postwar Photograph
Scott Mingus Collection



STRICKLER MENNONITE CHURCH

The Strickler Mennonite Church was located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Strickler School Road and Route 462 (See Map F). Established sometime after November 24, 1798, it was the oldest church of that denomination west of the Susquehanna River. A deed of that date shows that a Jacob Strickler of Hellam Township and his wife Elizabeth granted 49 perches of land to Henry Strickler and the “Elders and Trustees of the Religious Society, called the Mennonist Society, five pounds sterling, for “... a site for a Meeting House, or House of Worship for

the said Mennonist Society.” The land was a three cornered plot from Jacob’s 150 acres farm. Andrew Garber, and Abraham Flury were other participants in the transaction. It is said that brick was imported from England for the 30’x 28’ structure. However, historians have poo-pooed that claim as totally impractical. The congregation was under the Lancaster Conference. It is known to have been active in 1880. In 1923, it was absorbed by the Stony Brook Mennonite Church, then known as Witmer’s, a few miles west, and the building later was razed. The brick from it is said to have been used to build a house across Route 462 and slightly to the west .There are no known photographs. Probably members of our line attended services there. From *Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online* and from the Strickler Homestead Nomination form.

An historian at the Stony Brook Mennonite Church states that Henry Strickler, son of the original immigrant, founded the church with Christian Stoner and Ulrich Beidler.

According to a book, *The Earth is the Lord’s*, in the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, a Mennonite church in Wrightsville operated from 1855-1925.

There are no known photographs of this church.

Two other Strickler Mennonite Churches are located near Middletown, PA, and near Highspire, PA.

STRICKLER NEIGHBORLINESS

Although the incident in this story certainly wasn’t funny then, it does have a certain Keystone Kops ring to it.

THE VISITORS

One night in April 1863, three-year old Cordelia Beidler was out at the old farm. Her great-aunt Barbara was getting her ready for bed when Cordelia said: ‘Auntie, there’s a man looking in at the window.’

‘Oh, no, there isn’t,’ answered her aunt.

But twice more Cordelia saw through the bowed blinds, a man’s face with the lower part covered by a cloth. But her aunt told her to go to sleep, and taking the candle, left the room. But little Cordelia heard low voices outside the window before she went to sleep. Later in the evening her aunt Barbara stepped out on the porch to bring in some plants for fear of their being frosted. She found herself surrounded by four men.

She asked what they wanted and they said they wanted to see Mr. Beidler. She told them he was asleep and she did not want to wake him.

At that, one of the men said, ‘We’ll wake him up.’ Another man struck her on the head with a ‘billy’ made of lead and covered with leather, rendering her unconscious. Jane, the hired girl, raised her up on a bench and then started to run up the stairs to rouse the men, Baltzer Beidler and his brother Daniel. The robbers followed Jane and tried to prevent her from doing this.

Cordelia had been roused by the noise and, opening the door a tiny crack, peeped out to see what was going on. Jane saw her and pushed her back in the room, telling her to go back to bed, and ran to the stairway followed by the men. She reached it first and slammed the door on the finger of one of them.

By this time the brothers had been wakened by the struggle and were coming down the stairs. Cordelia's grandfather, Baltzer, reached the living room first and was attacked by the robbers. One struck his right arm with a billy to disable him, breaking the bone, but as he was left handed did not succeed in his purpose.

Baltzer was a powerful man, over six feet tall, and had been a noted athlete in his youth, winning prizes in running and jumping contests. He fought the four robbers and kept them from reaching the stairway in spite of his broken arm and the fact that his right eye had been knocked from its socket by a blow from one of the men.

Daniel had caught up a musket as he ran for the stairs and now tried to shoot the robbers, but the trigger snapped without causing the gun to go off, so he ran up the stairs to get another gun.

Meanwhile, Barbara had roused from the blow she had received and tried to help her brother. Twice more she was knocked unconscious and after the third time she decided to go to a neighbor for help. She went down the cellar stairs and out the outside cellar way and across the farm for a quarter of a mile to the **Strickler** (emphasis provided) place. She roused them, but the women of the family would not let the men go into such danger. So she went back alone, and the next day they found a trail of blood where she had crossed the field and the foot-log across the brook.

The struggle lasted for a long time. Baltzer knew that when his brother Daniel, got back with the gun he would shoot the robbers and he did not want anyone killed in the house. He told them they had better leave before Daniel got back.

They asked him how to go and he showed them the way out through the cellar, and when Daniel got downstairs again they were gone. But Baltzer was in possession of two of their "billys" which he had wrested from them. One of these is still in possession of his descendants. The robbers were never apprehended.

The Beidler family had prospered from the time they reached America, each generation adding to the wealth of the family by industry and careful investment, and it was thought the robbers believed they had money and valuables in the house. This was true, but the robbers got none of it, and immediately after this incident it was placed in safety in bank vaults.

Apparently the Beidler home in the story is the now Joe Kindig home on Pheasant Run Road, west of Rosevale (See Chapter VII), inhabited then by John Stone Beidler, his wife, Mary Elizabeth Bahn Beidler, and their eight children, one of whom was Cordelia. If so, and since the event occurred in 1863, the residents of the nearby Strickler family, Rosevale, were Jacob Strickler, his wife, Elizabeth Dietz Strickler, and their son Alfred (daughters Ellen and Anna were deceased). Alfred, then 20 years old, probably would have been one of the men at the house who was prevented by the women from responding to the request for help. Who

the “women in the house” were is unknown, perhaps sisters of Jacob and/or Elizabeth. The brook that Barbara crossed was Kreutz Creek.

In considering the Strickler refusal to respond, remember that Anna Beidler married Heinrich Strickler, Jr., and began our immediate line. However, the Beidler/Strickler relationship by then was four generations deep. Cordelia and Alfred were but 4th cousins-in-law.

Note that the incident occurred in April, 1863, two months before the Battle of Writtsville on June 29. The robbers, thus, were not Confederate soldiers.

The story was written by Cordelia Susan Beidler (1860-1932), fourth cousin, three times removed, of the author, and transcribed by Charles D. Wilcox, March 7, 1996. From <http://www.genweb.net/~wilcox/Visitors.html>. James Rudisill collection.

STRICKLER SCHOOL

Little is known about this school. Interestingly, it is not located on Strickler School Road. Rather, it is located on Ducktown Road which is the next road west of Strickler School Road, running both north and south off Route 462, at the second “L” of “LLA” (See Map B). The school is on the south side of Route 462 on the southeast corner of the intersection of Ducktown Road with Pheasant Run (Beidler) Road. It is not known who built it, and there is no known reason for its name; i.e., for whom it is named. A visit to the site on April 10, 2011, revealed that it is as per the photograph, just a bit more weathered. All of the windows have been boarded. The grounds are maintained; by whom is unknown. The view is of the south side. One might suspect that Alfred and Lizzie’s children, Calvin, Edward, and Susie attended the Strickler School before going on to YCA/YCI. Did Alfred and/or Lizzie? If so, it was a bit of a trek from Rosevale and the Ruby Farm.

Strickler School
Date of Photograph Unknown
Source Unknown



STRICKLER STATION

Strickler Station, as the name suggests, was a railroad station in Hellam Township on the tracks (single) of the Pennsylvania Railroad that ran east and west roughly parallel to Kreutz Creek between York and Wrightsville. The railroad, completed about 1840, as the Wrightsville, York, and Gettysburg Railroad, had a bridge connection in Wrightsville to cross the Susquehanna River and continue to Columbia, Lancaster, and Philadelphia. To prevent the Confederate army from crossing to Columbia and then attacking Harrisburg from the rear, that covered wooden structure was burned by the Union army in the historic Battle of Wrightsville on Sunday, June 28, 1863.

In spite of its name, the railroad apparently did not operate to Gettysburg. When the Northern Central Railroad was formed in 1854, the WY&G was taken over by the NCRR. In 1861, the NCRR was absorbed by the Pennsylvania Railroad. During the Battle of Wrightsville, all of the railroad bridges between York and Wrightsville were burned by Confederate troops. Several of the replacement black steel pony plate girder bridges remain, two of which cross Kreutz Creek. One is just east of the station site and the other is a mile or so west at Strickler's Mill (See Chapter V). There are no known photographs of the station.

The station is mentioned in the newspaper accounts of the death of Alfred Dietz Strickler (See Chapter VI). It also is the station to which guests apparently were brought on June 25, 1896, for the wedding at Rosevale of Susie and Morgan (See Chapter XII).

It can be located on Map F. It is on the northeast corner of the intersection of Bair's Mill Road with the railroad right-of-way on the property of James F. Bair, grandson of Woodrow W. Bair who bought Bair's Mill from the Dietz's. In the photograph on the following page, the right-of-way ran diagonally across from the bottom left corner. Coal residue can be seen on the ground of the area under the straw. Jim's recollection is that the station was merely a platform, not even a shed. It was razed in the early 1960s when rail service between York and Lancaster was discontinued.

Site of Strickler's Station
April 10, 2011
Photograph by the Author



It should be noted that the rail line has been abandoned and that the tracks have been removed. The right-of-way, mostly an embankment, still exists, although it is a totally overgrown wide path and junk depository. It is not known to whom ownership of the right-of-way passed when it was abandoned. Speculation is that it passed to the owners of the adjacent land.

STRICKLER THOROUGHFARES AND OTHER STRICKLER-OGRAPHY

These two thoroughfares are not just a cartographer's illusion (See Map F). They are real! The photograph was taken at the intersection of Strickler Lane and Strickler School Road at the Joseph Strickler farm. And, when traveling along Route 462, one sees signs for the two roads where they intersect with Route 462.

Strickler Road Signs
June 13, 2011
Photograph by the Author



There are other Strickler thoroughfares to look for in your travels:

Strickler Avenue: Waynesboro, PA; Bend, OR; Mt. Carroll, IL; Delphos, KS.

Strickler Road: Clarence, NY; Mt. Joy, PA; West Fork, AR; Amanda, OH; Colorado Springs, CO; Crescent City, FL; Denver, PA; Lewisburg, PA; Manheim, PA; Mt. Joy, PA; Naubinway, MI; Robesonia, PA; Strickler, AR; Vanderbilt, PA; Wernersville, PA.

Strickler Street: Perryopolis, PA; Philippi, WV; Dawson, PA; Pittsburgh, PA; Waco, NE; Lebanon, PA; Newmanstown, PA.

Strickler Drive, Kingsport, TN.

Strickler Lane, New Market, VA.

Stricklerstown Road, Lebanon County, PA

And, you may come across the following:

Strickler, Arkansas (formerly Stricklers, Arkansas) is an unincorporated community in Cove Creek Township, Washington County, Arkansas. It is located on Arkansas Highway 265 northwest of Devil's Den State Park (in the northwest section of the state). The area was settled by Benjamin and Mary Strickler in 1837. A post office for the Greenville community (which would become Strickler) was open from 1854-1874, and the Strickler post office was open through 1878-1943. The community was located on the Butterfield Overland Mail route. From Wikipedia

Stricklers Knob, Page Co., VA, is the highest point in Virginia's Massanutten Range. The knob is visible as far away as Waynesboro, Virginia (I can see it from my house about 65 miles away; author unknown). The knob takes its name from being located directly behind and above the Egypt Tract where Abraham Strickler permanently settled in the 1730's. From genealogy.jothoburn.com. In the photograph, the knob is the end of the higher mountain.

Strickler's Knob
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Google Images.



Strickler's Knob
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Geocities.ws/lbersheim/index-2.html



Stricklers Pass is located in Rockbridge County, Virginia and now is known as Goshen Pass, Stricklers Pass begins to the east at Strickler Springs (Wilson Springs) and dissects the mountains via the Maury River for some 8 miles, exiting near the town of Goshen for which the pass has now taken its name. Renowned for its natural beauty and remoteness, the pass has often been named one of America's best short scenic drives. The area is noted for the floral blooms, the great fishing, and the 2,000 ft mountain cliffs that define the borders of the pass. Before being known as Strickler Pass the pass was often referred to as Dunlap Pass. From www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/index-2.html; slightly edited.

Stricklers Pass
2003

From www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/index-2.html



Stricklers Springs, now known as Wilson Springs, is located on Route 39 west at the east entrance to Goshen Pass in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Strickler Springs was first known by that name about 1818. In 1810, Daniel Strickler relocated his family there from Rockingham County, Virginia. During his residence there, the farm grew to nearly 1000 acres and included many springs. The earliest record of it being called Strickler Springs comes from the records of a local minister who first noted in 1818 that he was visiting the Stricklers at the springs. The family lived on main plantation until the 1843. Most of the land was sold to the Wilson family who made the springs popular as a resort. At its peak, over 300 people could stay over in comfort at the springs. Diary records of H.B. Jones from 19 August 1852 still call the springs Strickler Springs. The last record of the name Strickler Springs is in 1878 when another visiting minister said he rode back to Strickler's Springs. By this time the springs was most commonly known as Wilson Springs. During the Civil War, the springs was an important depot and many cabins were built to house troops. Only a few of the cabins still remain, many being disposed of to widen Rt. 39. Today the name Wilson Springs is still used. The current owner of Strickler Springs, Royster Lyle, has made great efforts to reassemble as much of the original Strickler tract as possible. He has also had the farm registered as a historic landmark and efforts to preserve it are underway.

The Strickler Cemetery is on a hill nearby. From www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/index-2.html; slightly edited.

Strickler Springs
1920

From www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/index-2.html



Strickler Springs
1939

From www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/index-2.html



Strickler Tunnel, Colorado Springs, CO. Located high in the mountains near Pike's Peak above the town of Colorado Springs, Strickler Tunnel was the brainchild of Dr. William Mayberry Strickler (28 Sep 1838-26 Oct 1908). With reference to the lack of water in the town, in 1893 William Strickler came up with a plan of action. On the west side of Pike's Peak at an elevation of 10,258 ft was Lake Moraine. The capacity of that lake was 492,168,000 gallons of water. He would drill a tunnel up to the lake and use its water in the future. This proposal was approved. Strickler Tunnel was finished at a cost of \$100,000. The tunnel is still working in present day. From www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/places.html.

Strickler Wildlife and Hunting Preserve, Rockbridge Co., VA. Located in northwestern Rockbridge County, VA, near its intersection with Augusta County and just south of Campbelltown, Strickler Preserve is named after the Strickler family that has for several generations lived and hunted on that property which belongs to the state of Virginia. The trailhead is located off the northbound land of Rt. 601 in Rockbridge County just across from "Strickler's Gorge". A forestry sign marks the trailhead. These Stricklers are descendants of James Franklin Strickler, Sr. (1837-1900) and his wife Ellen Jane Anderson. From www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/places.html.

Strickler, Salina County, Kansas

Stricklerstown, Lebanon County, PA

STRICKLER WEALTH

Alfred Deitz Strickler's obit in 1902 refers to him as a "wealthy farmer." The homes that the Stricklers built and the size of their farms were evidence of money apparently throughout the family.

In 1865, a federal income tax was levied for the first time. A list of the gross income for residents of "Division 6," comprising the Borough of Hellam and the Townships of Hellam and Springettsbury was published by the Deputy Assessor. Following are the Stricklers on the list:

	<u>Income</u>
John, son of John	1,375
Joseph	981
J, son of Joseph	1,553
Jacob, son of John	615 (Alfred's father)
Jacob, son of Jacob	1,723
Levi	889
Henry	604
Daniel	615
John, son of John	805
David	2,773
And, just for the record, Samuel Ruby,	3,244

The 1870 census information includes the resident's age, occupation, the value of his real estate, and the value of his personal property. Here is that information for the Hellam Township Stricklers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Personalty</u>
Alfred Dietz (our Alfred)	26	Farmer	-----	3,100
Benjamin	48	Farmer	7,400	2,500
David	24	Farmer	-----	2,570
Henry	39	Farmer	7,800	1,100
Jacob	57	Farmer	31,110	4,500
Jacob (Alfred's father)	59	Ret Farmer	32,300	9,500
John	57	Farmer	22,000	6,000
John	36	Farmer	15,600	4,680
John	42	Farmer	11,000	400
Joseph	57	Ret Farmer	15,900	1,850
Levi	42	Farmer	-----	2,700
Michael	24	Farmer	3,000	900
Rudolph	38	Farmer	10,000	2,500
William	29	Miller		4,000

From the 1870 United States Census, accessed through HeritageQuest from the Delaware County Library System.

Note that in 1870 Alfred had been married to Lizzie for 5 years and apparently was living at Rosevale (he owned no real estate) which was owned at that time by his father, Jacob. Alfred apparently inherited the farm when his father died in 1892. In 1870, Rosevale was valued at \$32,300!!!!

We'll leave the conversion of the above dollars to current dollars to the financial experts.

But Strickler Wealth probably was even earlier than 1865 and 1870. In 1783 there were in Hellam Township 16,037 acres of land not vacant, 101 dwelling houses, 86 barns, 8 mills, 7 slaves, 345 male citizens, and 320 females. Following is a list of "the taxables" for the Stricklers of Hellam Township for 1783.

- Henry Strickler, 80 acres, 1 grist mill, 1 saw mill 603
- Jacob Strickler, Jr. 180 acres 644
- John Strickler, 195 acres 483
- John Strickler, 180 acres 598
- Henry Strickler, 126 acres 488

From *History of York County, Pennsylvania*

STRICKLER'S MILL ACCIDENT

Last Wednesday morning the lifeless body of John Eckert, miller, in charge of Joseph Strickler's mill about two miles west of Wrightsville, in York County was discovered being whirled around the shaft in a frightful manner. It was discovered by a boy who didn't know how to stop the machinery, and he had to go half a mile for assistance. The unfortunate man was probably adjusting some part of the machinery when his clothing was caught and he was soon whirled to death. When the mangled remains were removed, it was found that both arms and legs were broken and the skull was fractured. Deceased was only 23 years of age and unmarried. His widowed mother lives in Lebanon County. Tuesday, January 22, 1884, *The Wellsboro Agitator*, Wellsboro, Tioga County, PA. The accident apparently occurred on Wednesday, January, 16, 1884. Note the reference to Joseph Strickler's mill. By 1884 Joseph probably had turned over the mill operations to his son-in-law, Abraham Bear Sprenkle.

SUSIE'S BEDROOM FURNITURE

According to family lore, this magnificent birdseye maple bedroom set was Susie and Morgan's wedding set. It was in their home at 710 South George St. in York. Probably all three of their children, Elizabeth, Harriet, and Clara May, were born in the bed.

The furniture was acquired by Susan Rudisill, from the estate of her mother, Elizabeth Rudisill Beadle, Susie's granddaughter. The furniture has been beautifully refinished to its original grandeur by Ms. Rudisill. The coverlet on the bed is the same one described in "Alfred's Mother's Coverlet" earlier in this chapter. The lamp has no Strickler significance.

Susie's Bedroom Furniture
April, 2011
Photographs by Susan Rudisill
Dressers



Dressing Table
And Mirror



Dressing Table Chair



Detail of Dresser Corner
And Mirror Frame



Detail of Top of Mirror Frame



Top of Dresser



Bed



SUSIE'S BIBLE

This Bible, following page, apparently was Susie's from her school days. She signed her name on an inside cover page and added "YCI (York Collegiate Institute, York, PA), her "high school." To another signature, she added 1879, when she would have been about 18 years old and probably at St. Agnes School for Girls, Albany, NY. She also wrote the names of several Strickler girls, probably relatives, and another girl, probably a friend.

The Bible apparently was acquired later by Susie's daughter, Harriet Louise Gipe Brenner, mother of the author, who chronicled her family history on the inside cover pages.

It may be interesting to note that the page on which begins Ecclesiastes, Chapter IV, has been dog-eared. By Susie? By her daughter? Why? It is the chapter about vanity (see Preface, page xi, for Lizzie's frequent quote on vanity). Could Lizzie's comments have influenced Susie to dog-ear the page?

Between pages 94 and 95, Leviticus, Chapters IX-XI (probably of no significance) is a childhood photograph of, probably, Harriet, plus a cutting of blond curly hair, probably the author's as an infant.

The Bible was acquired by the author from the estate of his mother, Harriet Louise Gipe Brenner, Susie's daughter. The cover and spine have been professionally repaired.

Susie's Bible
February, 2011
Photograph by the Author



Susie's Bible
February, 2011
Photographs by the Author
Inside Front Cover Fly Leaf Inside Back Cover



SUSIE'S CRIB

This walnut crib was, according to Jim Rudisill, Susie's; she was born in 1871. It is probable that it also was used for Susie's and Morgan's children, Elizabeth, Harriet, and Clara May. If so, could it have been used for their children? And even for some of their grandchildren?

It could not be used today because of the unacceptably wide space between the posts of the siderails—almost five inches.

Note the metal spring.

There apparently is a technique that allows one side to be tilted or lowered, but the author hasn't figured out how it works.

The sides are attached to the head and foot boards by 5" x ½" black, perhaps hand forged, bolts. The panel in the head board is a separate piece that screws into the headboard frame.

The outside dimensions are 48"h x 26"w x 49"l.

It was acquired by the author from the estate of Elizabeth Rudisill Beadle, Susie's granddaughter.

Susie's Crib
February, 2011
Photographs by the Author
Spring



Susie's Crib
February, 2011
Photographs by the Author
Headboard and Sides

Back View

Front View

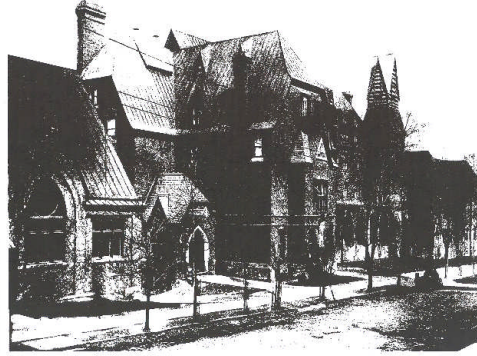


SUSIE'S "FINISHING SCHOOL"

This veritable fortress in the photograph on the following page was St. Agnes School for Girls in Albany, New York. Founded in 1870 by the Right Rev. William C. Doane, Bishop of Albany (Episcopal), it was to "furnish all the best in intellectual education and womanly accomplishments" and combine with them "religious instruction and training in accordance with the principles of the church." Susie probably attended, perhaps for three years, around 1891 or so after graduating from York Collegiate Institute in 1890. According to Jim Rudisill, Susie was confirmed by Bishop Doane. We wonder if that action was acceptable to Alfred and Lizzie?

St. Agnes has since merged with the Kenwood School, a Catholic institution, to become the Doane Stuart School, Stuart for the Roman Catholic educator Mother Janet Erskine Stuart. It is recognized as the nation's only successfully merged Roman Catholic/Protestant school.

St. Agnes School for Girls, Albany, NY
Ca. late 1800s
Photograph from a School Document



SUSIE'S HIGH SCHOOL

High school for Susie was the prestigious York Collegiate Institute, a private school, from which she graduated in 1890. Ironically, YCI was the surviving name after a merger with the York County Academy, the principal of which from 1866 to 1880 was one George Washington Ruby, PhD (See Chapter VIII). He was Lizzie's first cousin, once removed. YCI/YCA later became York Junior College and now is York College of Pennsylvania. It appears also that brother Calvin attended the York County Academy (or maybe YCI), and we don't doubt that Edward did, too.

YCA, the top left photograph on the following page, originally was an operation of The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, located in the second block of North Beaver Street in York, where Susie and her family later worshiped. It was incorporated in 1787 and then re-incorporated in 1799 as an independent entity. The building, across the street from the church, was razed in 1966. During WWII, it served as a USO.

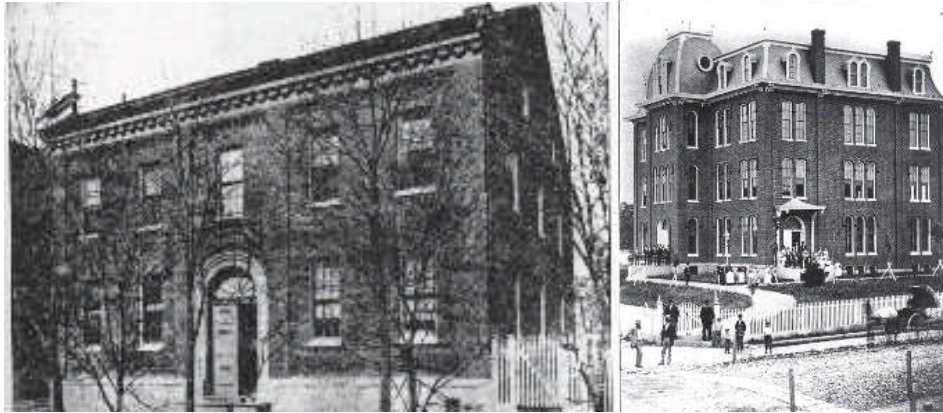
YCI was founded in 1871 in the building on the top right photograph, following page. That structure was destroyed by fire in 1885 and was replaced in 1887 by the one in the center. That building remained in service until the 1962 when the campus of the York College of Pennsylvania was opened elsewhere. The building has been razed.

YCA and YCI merged in 1929.

York County Academy
Date of Photograph Unknown

First York Collegiate Institute
1874

From *York College of Pennsylvania*



Second York Collegiate Institute
Ca. 1890

From *York College of Pennsylvania*



SUSIE'S PAINTING

This pretty 20"x27" still life in oil was done by Susie probably during her YCI or St. Agnes years. Jim Rudisill states that it is a "diagram" painting, somewhat akin to "paint by numbers." According to Susan Rudisill, the frame probably is original, and it is gold leaf. The painting was in the estate of Susie's granddaughter, Elizabeth Rudisill Beadle; unfortunately it no longer is in the family. Perhaps Susie's artistic talent did some generation skipping, for two children of her daughter, Elizabeth, Jim and Abe, are artists; Jim is a graduate of The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and Abe is a graduate of the Pratt Institute. Elizabeth's granddaughter, Susan, has exhibited her works.

Susie's Still Life,
Ca. 1900
June, 2011

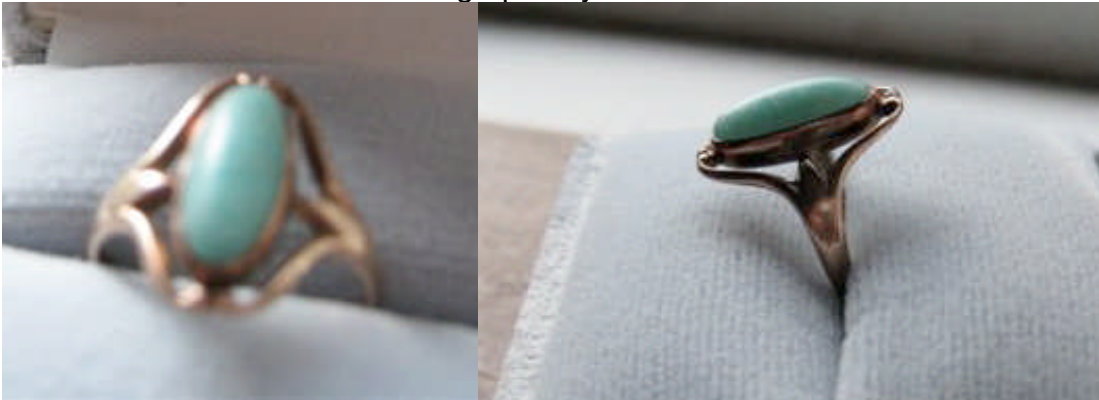
Photograph provided by Pook and Pook, Auctioneers, Downingtown, PA



SUSIE'S RING

This magnificent gold turquoise ring was Susie's, apparently a gift from an unknown friend named Alma. It is inscribed "Sue and Alma." The ring is in the possession of Susan Rudisill who acquired it from the estate of her mother, Elizabeth Rudisill Beadle, Susie's granddaughter.

Susie's Gold Turquoise Ring
June 8, 2011
Photographs by the author



SUSIE'S SEWING CHEST

This absolutely magnificent piece of furniture, a sewing chest, was made by Alfred for his daughter, Susie. A good guess on its age is between Susie's birth in 1871 and her marriage in 1896. It was handed down to Susie's daughter, Elizabeth, then to her granddaughter, Susan Rudisill, in whose possession it now is. It is thrilling to see what could be created before Black and Decker. Notice the curved sides, and look at the joinery of the compartments in the photograph on the right. This is a piece of work!

Susie's Sewing Chest
March, 2011

Photographs by Susan Rudisill



SUSIE'S SILVER

These three pieces of Susie's silver, a tea server, a coffee server, and an initialed, "S," vegetable dish, possibly were wedding presents (1896). They are plate, not sterling, and the finish is not exactly in mint condition. Nevertheless, they are very nice heirlooms that grace the author's dining room buffet.

The items were acquired by the author from the estate of his mother, Harriet Louise Gipe Brenner, Susie's daughter.

Susie's Silver
February, 2011
Photograph by the author



SUSIE'S STEAMER TRUNK

This trunk probably was used by Susie in her travels between Rosevale and St. Agnes School in Albany. It is in the possession of Susan Rudisill who acquired it from the estate of her mother, Elizabeth Rudisill Beadle, Susie's granddaughter. The last two lines of the label in the lower left photograph read "Traveling Bags, Ladies Satchels, Travel and Shawl Straps &C."

Susie's Steamer Trunk
June, 2011
Photographs by Susan Rudisill



SUSIE'S TEA SERVICE

This beautiful tea service, originally for 10, was Susie's. It included urns for the coffee and tea, plus a sugar bowl and a creamer, as well as plates for the sweets and savories. Wonder if she used it to entertain Morgan's monied, high society customers? Family lore is that it was made around 1840 in Bavaria. It was in the estate of Susie's granddaughter, Elizabeth Rudisill Beadle. Unfortunately, it no longer is in the family.

Susie's Tea Service

June, 2011

Photograph provided by Pook and Pook, Auctioneers, Downingtown, PA



WAR OF 1812

There is no specific information that any Stricklers of our line did or did not participate in the war of 1812. It is assumed that at that time most of the Stricklers still retained their Mennonite faith and would not have borne arms.

CHAPTER XII
MARRIAGES AND DEATHS
PART A
MARRIAGES

CALVIN RUBY STRICKLER AND HARRIET MARY BURSK
JUNE 7, 1894

The following article was transcribed from an unknown June, 1894, newspaper, probably from Lancaster. The original is in Hattie's scrapbook. In the fourth headline, below, the words "Swank-Hauf Nuptials" probably refer to an accompanying story of another wedding.

MORE JUNE WEDDINGS

Miss Harriet Bursk Married to Mr. Calvin R. Strickler

A PRETTY CHURCH CEREMONY

The Groom a Columbia Banker and the Bride the Daughter of the Well-Known
Grocer—Swank-Hauf Nuptials

Miss Harriet Bursk, daughter of Mr. D. S. Bursk, the well-known grocer, was united in marriage last evening to Mr. Calvin Ruby Strickler, banker, of Columbia. The ceremony was solemnized at eight o'clock in St. John's Lutheran church, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion. The best man was Dr. J. W. C. Grove, of Columbia, and Miss Sue W. Bursk, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Misses Kathryn M. Conomy, Philadelphia; Sue Irene Strickler, sister of the groom, Wrightsville; Hallie Keffer, Helen B. Hassler, city. Flower girls, Misses Sue Williamson and Lillian Williamson. Page, J. Howard Bursk, brother of the bride. Ushers, Arthur W. Bahn of Baltimore; George N. Bassler, city; Harry E. Frank, York.

The bride was dressed in white heavy corded silk and carried Bride roses. Her white flowing veil was trimmed with lilies of the valley. The maid of honor wore white organdie and carried a bouquet of pink sweet peas. The bridesmaids and flower girl were dressed in silk mull ornamented with silver spangles and carried pink sweet peas.

A few minutes before the ceremony the four ushers entered the church and took their places at the head of the center aisle. They were followed by the page and a flower girl who

displayed a handsome silk ribbon. Next came the four bridesmaids, maid of honor, and flower girl, and bride supported by her father who gave her away. They were met at the altar, which was surrounded by tropical plants, by the groom, best man, and Revs. B. F. Alleman, pastor of the church, and George Wells Eby, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Columbia, who tied the nuptial knot.

Immediately after the wedding, the bridal party and a host of friends, repaired to the residence of the bride's parents on North Duke Street, where a brilliant reception was held from nine to eleven o'clock. The home was decorated with daisies, laurel, and clover, and Thorbahn's orchestra furnished the music for the occasion. Caterer Payne served an elegant supper.

The many presents of the bride and groom were handsome and valuable.

Mr. and Mrs. Strickler left on the 10:40 train on their wedding trip. They will make their future home in Columbia where the groom has a nicely furnished residence.

**

This article, below, also from the scrapbook, was transcribed from another unknown newspaper, probably from Columbia. The left margin is cut off, making exact transcription questionable; some assumptions, therefore, were made. Note the addition of the story about the reception hosted by Susie.

BRILLIANT WEDDING, CHARMING RECEPTION

LANCASTER CITY LAST EVENING

Columbian Weds a Lancaster Maiden—Many Columbians Present—Other City and County News—
Accident to a Young Man—High School Notes—In Jail for Felonious Assault

The marriage of Miss Harriet Bursk, Lancaster, to Mr. Calvin R. Strickler, Columbia, was solemnized in St. John's Lutheran church, Lancaster, last evening in the presence of a large and fashionable audience. The ceremony was performed by Dr. B. F. Alleman, pastor, assisted by Rev George Wells Eby, of Columbia. The chapel is one of the handsomest structures in the city. Its beauty was further enhanced by tasteful bridal decorations.

The best man was Dr. J. W. Grove, of Columbia. Miss Sue W. Bursk, sister of the bride was maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Misses Kathryn McConomy, Philadelphia; Sue Irene Strickler, sister of the groom, Wrightsville; Hallie Keffer, Helen B. Hassler, city. Flower girls, Misses Sue and Lillian Williamson. Page, J. Howard Bursk, brother of the bride. Ushers, Arthur W. Bahn, Baltimore; George N. Bassler, city; Henry E. Frank, York, and George Potts, Harrisburg.

The bride was dressed in white heavy corded silk and carried bride roses. Her white flowing veil was trimmed with lilies of the valley. The maid of honor wore white organdie and carried pink sweet peas. The bridesmaids and flower girls were dressed in silk mull ornamented with silver spangles and they carried pink sweet peas.

Immediately after the ceremony, the bridal party and a host of friends repaired to the residence of the bride's parents on North Duke street, where a brilliant reception was held from nine to eleven o'clock. The house was decorated with daisies, laurel and clover. Prof. Thorbahn orchestra furnished music for the occasion. Caterer Payne served refreshments.

The gifts to the bride were handsome and valuable.

Mr. and Mrs. Strickler left on the 10:40 train on their wedding trip. They will make their future home on Chestnut street in Columbia.

Among the Columbians present were the following: Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Det????, Rev. and Mrs. George Wells Eby, ???? Detwiler and Horace Detwiler, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Yocum, Dr. and Mrs. A. ???? , Mrs. B. F. Pheneger and Miss Pheneger, Mrs. Mary G. Schram, Daniel ???? Detwiler and Miss Detwiler, Messrs. George H. Richards , Dr, W. L. ???? , I. B. Lutz, Howard B. Stauffer, ???? W. Johnston, Thurston Lee, Clarence Dutesman, and Jos. D. Hiestand.

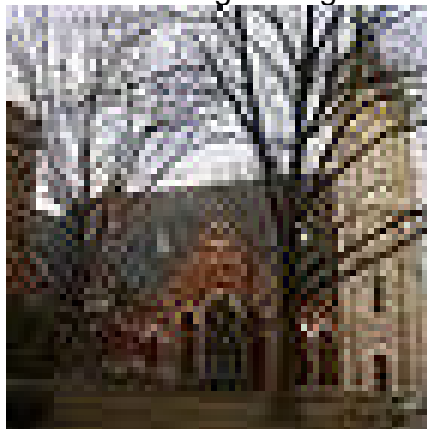
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A Reception at Rose Vale

Miss Strickler gave a reception for Mr. and Mrs. Calvin R. Strickler, last evening at her home at Rose Vale, York County. It was a very pleasant occasion. The house was beautifully decorated with ???? lilies and roses.

Among the guests present were: Misses ???? Cross, Sue Eichelbeger, and ???? Eichelberger, Miss Passmore ???? Miss Strickler, of York, Miss Bursk of Lancaster, Mrs. Weaver ???? Miss Maude Weaver of Lenover, Lancaster county: Miss Magee and ???? Kaufold, of Wrightsville; ???? Pheneger of Columbia; Messrs. ???? Leber, Edward Meyers, Will ???? , and Morgan Gipe, of York. Dr. J. W. Grove and Messrs. R. H. ???? and H. B. Clepper of Columbia, Mr. Edward Strickler, of Rose Vale.

St. John's Lutheran Church
223 West Orange Street, Lancaster, PA
Site of Calvin's and Hattie's Wedding
From Google Images



Wedding Party of Calvin Ruby Strickler and Harriet Mary Bursk
June 7, 1894
James C. Strickler Collection



There are 17 persons in this photograph. The transcription, below, is from the back of the photograph, a handwritten list of the people in the photograph, unidentified as to location in the photograph. The pairings of the names may be interesting. It is as accurate as the handwriting allows. Names and roles can be compared with those in the newspaper articles.

Mr. & Mrs. D. S. Bursk (parents of the bride, probably immediately behind the
bride and groom who are seated in the middle)
Miss Sue Bursk—Dr. Grove
Howard Bursk—Lillian Williamson
Helen Hamler—H.A. Banler
M. Kaltry McConomy—Mr. G. Potts
Sue Irene Strickler (seated, far right) —Mr. A. Bahn
Hallie F. Keffer—Mr. Frank
Sue Williamson
Harriet Mary Bursk—Mr. Calvin Ruby Strickler
June 7, 1894

**EDWARD DIETZ STRICKLER AND ANNA MARY KATE LOUCKS
SEPTEMBER 26, 1895**

This account of the wedding of Edward Dietz Strickler and Anna Mary Kate Loucks was transcribed from an unknown newspaper of September 27, 1875. Part of the article has torn away, leaving some unreadable copy. Note the location was “the palatial Loucks mansion.” Must have been quite an affair. Note also that the maid of honor was Susie Strickler and that one of the ushers was Morgan E. Gipe; they would marry nine months later.

MARRIAGE OF MISS ANNA MARY KATE LOUCKS TO MR. EDWARD D.
STRICKLER

Miss Anna Mary K. Loucks and Mr. Edward D. Strickler were happily wedded last evening at the bride's home in Manchester Township. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Loucks and grand-daughter of the late Z. K. Loucks and is one of Manchester's most charming and accomplished young ladies. The groom is one of Hellam's most highly esteemed and popular young men. The ceremony was performed at 7 o'clock p.m. in the parlor of the palatial Loucks mansion, the couple standing underneath an arched canopy of boxwood and smilax. The officiating clergyman was Rev. A. W. Lilly, D.D., of Zion Lutheran church, of which the bride is a member.

The bride was attended by Miss Sue Irene Strickler, sister of the groom, as maid of honor. The ushers were Messrs. Morgan E. Gipe, Frank Spahr, William H. Loucks and Harry J. Loucks.

The bride was elegantly attired in white figured satin trimmed in duchesse lace and pearls, and wore a full length tulle bridal veil caught up at the shoulders with orange blossoms. She carried a beautiful bouquet of bridal roses.

The maid of honor wore pink mull trimmed in chiffon and carried a bouquet of pink roses.

The nuptials were ushered in with the wedding march from Lohengrin and closed with Mendelssohn's wedding march. During the ceremony, "O du mein holder absenstern" from Tanhauser (sic) was played, Prof. Stewert (sic) E. Gipe presiding at the piano.

Immediately after the wedding ceremony a most sumptuous wedding supper was served. The table was a marvel of ??? and was laden with the choicest ??? known to the caterer's art. It was ???the supervision of Mr. G. J. Good ??? of this city and who was ably ??? by a number of assistants.

??? large and beautiful lawn surround ??? homestead mansion was brilliantly illuminated by hundreds of Japanese ??? in pleasing and beautiful designs.

???esents to the bride and groom ??? numerous, costly, and represented ar???? Gold, silver, china, and glassware, ??? wooden ware, cotton, linen ???goods and were the gifts of friends residing in Philadelphia, New York, Harrisburg, Baltimore, York, and other cities.

Mr. and Mrs. Strickler left on the 7:33 train north for Harrisburg ???

Note that Professor Gipe's first name was Stuart.

The following very brief article was transcribed from a York newspaper of September 27, 1895.

STRICKLER-LOUCKS

Edward D. Strickler and Miss Anna K. M. Loucks were married last evening at the home of the bride's parents at Loucks Mill. A large company of relatives and friends were present. A reception was held and the couple left on a wedding trip." *York Gazette* September 27, 1895.

Note the order of Anna's middle initials, above. It is believed that her name was Anna Mary Kate.

SUSAN IRENE STRICKLER AND MORGAN EUGENE GIPE JUNE 25, 1896

This account of the wedding of Susan Irene Strickler and Morgan Eugene Gipe was transcribed from an unknown Columbia, PA, newspaper of June 26, 1896. It, too, must have been quite an affair. On a visit to Rosevale in the early 2000s, the author stood at the fireplace in front of which, allegedly, his grandfather, for whom he is named, was married.

A BRILLIANT WEDDING NEAR WRIGHTSVILLE

THE BRIDE AND GROOM WELL KNOWN HERE

Miss Susan Irene Strickler Married to Mr. Morgan Eugene Gipe—The Wedding Took Place at "Rosevale," the Home of the Bride—Many Guests Present from Columbia

Rosevale, the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred D. Strickler, at Strickler's Station, near Wrightsville, was, last evening, the scene of a brilliant wedding when Miss Susan Irene Strickler was married to Morgan Eugene Gipe, of York.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. Charles James Wood, rector of St. John's Episcopal church of York, of which the bride is a member, assisted by Rev. J.O. Miller, of Trinity Reformed church, pastor of the groom.

They were married under an arch composed of smilax and roses and containing a monogram of their initials, her father giving her away. Lohengrin's wedding march was played by Miss Sue McConkey, of Wrightsville.

The bride was attired in white satin and Duchess en train, with chiffon and pearl trimming, and wore a tulle veil. She carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley and white sweet peas. The maid of honor was Miss Maude Weaver, of Lenover, who wore pink organdie over pink satin. The bridesmaids were Miss Blanche Lucille Gipe, sister of the groom, Miss Sarah Strickler, of Wrightsville, Miss Dora Susette Sproul, of Chester, and Miss Minnie S. Kurtz, of Mifflinburg, all of whom wore white organdie and pink satin sashes. They carried pink sweet peas and maiden hair fern, tied with pink satin ribbon.

Mr. Stuart E. Gipe, brother of the groom, was best man. The ushers were Messers.

E.G.S. Myers, W. Smith Heiges, William O.Thompson and William Koller.

The York opera house orchestra was present and played during the evening.

An elaborate wedding supper was served by caterers from York. The table, which was set upon the porch, was decorated in green and white, and illuminated with cut glass and candelabras. The window sill and mantel were decorated with bands of ferns, and pink and white carnations and the lawn illuminated with Chinese lanterns.

The bride gave white kid belts with gold buckles containing initials and ? to her bridesmaids; the groom a stickpin with pearl setting to the ushers.

The gifts to the bride were very numerous, useful, and handsome. Many guests were present from Lancaster, Columbia, and elsewhere.

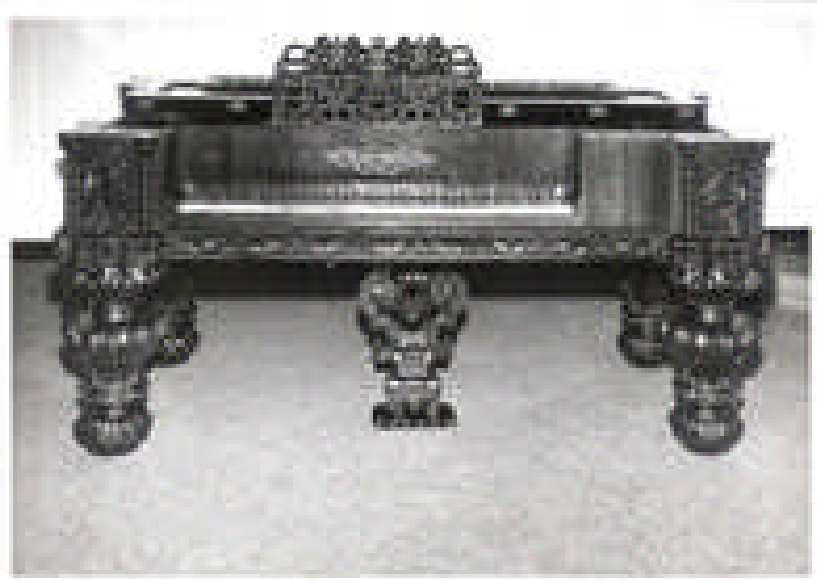
A special train took a party of about 125 from York; and returned shortly after midnight, the bridal couple returning with them. Mr. and Mrs. Gipe took a later train for an extended tour of the north and east.

The bride and groom are well known in Columbia. The bride is a sister of Mr. C. R. Strickler, of Columbia, and is a frequent visitor here. Mr. Gipe is the son of Professor Gipe, the well-known musical instructor.

In the photographs of the home at Rosevale (See Chapter III), the front porch, mentioned above, is obvious. Surely it provided a grand reception area.

Note in the above account that Miss Sue McConkey (the McConkeys were in-laws) played the "Wedding March." Presumably she played it on the Strickler family piano, a Knabe, similar to the one in the photograph below, known as a square grand. Isn't that a piece of work?! The case is hand carved rosewood. The Strickler family piano worked it way sometime in the 1940s or '50s to the possession of the author's mother, Harriet Gipe Brenner, Susie's daughter (probably no one in the family wanted it—it's not your everyday spinet size) in the basement of whose home it remained until it was sold out of family in the 1960s Did Susie play it?

Knabe Piano
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Knabe Piano Company Website



PART B

DEATHS

MORGAN EUGENE GIPE, JUNE 29, 1952

Morgan E. Gipe, husband of the late Minnie K. Gipe, a founder and the first president of the York Rotary Club in 1916 and York's oldest interior decorator died at 7:08 last evening at York Hospital. He was 85. Mr. Gipe resided at the Colonial Hotel and operated his shop at 142 East Market street. He was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church and Yorktowne Lodge 841 of the Odd Fellows. He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. William T. Terks (sic), Brookline, PA; Mrs. George Rudisill, 238 South Duke street, and Mrs. Walker Brenner, 826 South Pershing; seven grandchildren, and two sisters, Mrs. Louis Morse, 439 Madison avenue, and Mrs. Maude Beck, 303 South George street. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a. m. Wednesday at the Strack and Strine Funeral Home, 1025 East Market street. The Rev. Canon Clifton A. Best will officiate. Interment will be in Prospect Hill Cemetery. From *The York Dispatch*, June 30, 1952.

Note the typo: the daughter's name is Mrs. William T. Perks.

Following Susie's death in 1917, Morgan married Minnie Katherine "Kitty" Boyd on September 5, 1923. She was the daughter of Isaac N. Boyd, MD.

SUSAN IRENE STRICKLER GIPE, JUNE 10, 1917

MRS. MORGAN E. GIPE

Mrs. Morgan E. Gipe, in the forty-sixth year of her age, died at 2:40 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the family residence, 718 (sic) South George Street, after a lingering illness. Besides her husband she is survived by three daughters-Elizabeth; Harriet L. and Clara May all at home. She also leaves her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth R. Strickler, who resides near Wrightsville, and two brothers, Calvin R. Strickler, of Columbia and Edward D. Strickler, of Hallam. The funeral will be held Wednesday morning under the direction of Undertakers Strack & Son, with services at the house at 10 o'clock. Rev. Dr. Arthur Russell Taylor, pastor of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church of which congregation Mrs. Gipe was a member, will be the officiating clergyman. Interment will be made in Prospect Hill Cemetery. Unknown newspaper, June 11, 1917. From The York County Heritage Trust.

**

Funeral Services over the body of Mrs. Susan Strickler Gipe, wife of Morgan E. Gipe, who died last Sunday afternoon were conducted at her late residence 715 South George Street this morning at 10 o'clock by The Rev. Dr. Arthur B. Taylor of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church. Acting as pallbearers were J. G. Glesner, Charles H. Bear, F. T. Brandt, Clarence Geesey, William Livingston, and Daniel B. Strickler. Interment was made in Peospect Hill Cemetery. From an unknown newspaper of unknown date.

Note in both obituaries the incorrect address of the family home; the correct address is 710 South George Street.

ALFRED DIETZ STRICKLER, SEPTEMBER 21, 1902

See Chapter VI

ANNIE MARY KATE LOUCKS STRICKLER, OCTOBER 25, 1944

MRS. ANNIE STRICKLER, FORMERLY OF HALLAM, CLAIMED BY DEATH

Hallam-Mrs. Annie M. Strickler, wife of the late Edward Strickler, formerly of this place, died at 11:50 o'clock last night at the Maxwell Convalescent Home, 830 West Market Street, York. She was 75. She leaves a brother, Dr. William E. Loucks, and a sister, Miss Isabel Loucks, both of York, R.D. 5. She was a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Hallam. Funeral Services will be conducted at 2:00 o'clock tomorrow afternoon from the Etwiler Funeral Home, 732 East Market St. Rev Glenn T. Hafer, Pastor of St. James Lutheran Church, Hallam, will officiate. Burial will be made in Prospect Hill Cemetery. Unknown newspaper. From The York County Heritage Trust.

**

MRS. ANNIE STRICKLER

Funeral services for Mrs. Anne M. K. Strickler, wife of the late Edward Strickler, formerly of Hallam, who died Wednesday at the Maxwell Convalescent home, 830 West Market Street. Rev. Glenn T. Hafer, pastor of St. James Lutheran Church, Hallam, officiated. Pallbearers were Menotta Gohn, Emanuel Reeve, Howard Stoner, George Blessing, George Livingston and Charles Leiphart. Interment was in Prospect Hill Cemetery. Unknown newspaper. From the York County Heritage Trust.

CALVIN RUBY STRICKLER, JANUARY 23, 1923

CALVIN R. STRICKLER

Wrightsville. Jan 24.-Calvin R. Strickler, 56 years old, a native of this vicinity, but for the past 36 years a resident of Columbia, where he engaged in the hardware business, died last evening at 6 o'clock at his home, 324 Chestnut Street, of the latter place. Death was caused by pneumonia from which disease he had been a sufferer for the past three weeks. The deceased was a son of Mrs. Elizabeth Strickler who lives along the Lincoln Highway, one-half mile from this place, and the late Alfred D. Strickler. He leaves his wife, three sons, Alfred, Elizabeth, N.J.; Daniel of Lancaster; Harold, Greensburg, and a daughter, Miss Catherine Strickler, a student at Wheaton College, Norton, Mass. He is also survived by his mother, and one brother, Edward Strickler, Hallam. He was a trustee of the First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, and a member of the Columbia Chamber of Commerce. Unknown newspaper. From The York County Heritage Trust.

**

CALVIN R. STRICKLER

Columbia, Jan 24—Calvin R. Strickler, who for many years conducted a hardware store on Locust street died last evening at 6 o'clock at his home, 324 Chestnut street. Death was caused by pneumonia after several weeks' illness. He was about 57 years of age and was a life-long member and trustee of the Presbyterian church, belonged to several fraternal organizations, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and manager of the East Columbia Land Company.

The deceased was a native of York County and came to Columbia many years ago. Beside his wife he is survived by three sons and a daughter: Alfred, of Elizabeth, N. J.; Captain Daniel E., of Lancaster; Harold, of Greensburg, and Catherine, a student at a college in Norton, Mass. His mother and a brother, Edward, in York county also survive. From Lancaster Daily Intelligencer, Wednesday, January 24, 1923, page 2.

**

Note the incorrect middle initial for Dan and the spelling for Katharine. Her college was Wheaton.

CALVIN STRICKLER

Wrightsville, Jan. 26.- The funeral of Calvin Strickler, a prominent hardware dealer of Columbia, and a former resident of near this place, was held this afternoon with burial in Laurel Hill cemetery, Rev. George Wells Ely, pastor officiated. Unknown Newspaper, 1923. Partial obituary from The York County Heritage Trust.

**

Although it is not known whether Calvin's funeral services were conducted from his home or from the First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, of which he was a member, this photograph is included just in case. The church was organized in 1807 as the English Presbyterian Church, and the building was erected in 1812. It was replaced in 1890.

First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, PA
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Columbia Presbyterian Church Website



EDWARD DIETZ STRICKLER, NOVEMBER 9, 1941

EDWARD D. STRICKLER, 72, EXPIRES AT HALLAM

Hallam, Nov 9. Edward D. Strickler, a retired farmer, died at 6:20 o'clock this morning at his home here. Death was caused by a complication of diseases following an illness of several months. He was 72 years old.

Mr. Strickler was a son of the late Alfred D. and Elizabeth Ruby Strickler, Hellam township. He was a director of the Hallam Water company, was a member of St. James Lutheran church, and belonged to the I. O. O. F., Wrightsville.

The only immediate survivor is his widow, Mrs. Anna Mary Loucks Strickler. The funeral will be held Wednesday with all services from the late home at 2:30 p.m. Rev Glenn T. Hafer, pastor of St. James Lutheran church, will officiate. Funeral Directors Edward Etwiler and Son are in charge of arrangements. *The Gazette and Daily*, York,

PA. November 10, 1941. The same obituary appeared in *The York Dispatch*, York, PA, on November, 10, 1941.

ELIZABETH S. RUBY STRICKLER, JANUARY 27, 1928

MRS. ELIZABETH STRICKLER DIED NEAR WRIGHTSVILLE

Mrs. Elizabeth R. Strickler died at ten o'clock this morning at her home about two miles west of Wrightsville, in her 83rd year. She had been ill but two days. She leaves one son, Edward, of Hallam. Calvin R. Strickler, late of Columbia, deceased, was also a son. The funeral will be held from the late home at 1:30 o'clock Monday afternoon, with burial in the Strickler burying ground near the home. The family requests that flowers be omitted. Unknown newspaper. January 27, 1928.

**

Note that the above obituary does not mention Lizzie's deceased daughter, Susie.

AGED WIDOW DIES OF COMPLICATIONS

Mrs. Elizabeth Ruby Strickler Succumbs Near Wrightsville in 83rd Year

WAS ILL TWO DAYS

Wrightsville, Jan 27.—Mrs. Elizabeth Ruby Strickler, widow of Absalom B. Strickler died at 10 o'clock this morning at her residence on the Rosevale farm, two miles west of town. Death was due to a complication of diseases and followed an illness of two days. She was aged 82 years, 10 months, and 10 days. She leaves a son, Edward M. (sic) Strickler, of Hallam, and a number of grandchildren. The funeral will be held Monday, with services at the home at 1:30 p.m., and interment in Strickler's cemetery, just west of here in Hellam Township. The funeral will be in charge of Edward Etwiler and son local funeral directors. Unknown newspaper. From The York County Heritage Trust.

**

There is absolutely no evidence (or family lore) to support the "widow of Absalom B. Strickler," which is included also in the *Dispatch* obit of January 28. How the reference got into the newspaper is unknown. One explanation may be that the *Gazette* obit of January 30, uses "widow of A. B. Strickler," possibly a typo for A. D. (Alfred Dietz). But, then how did Absalom develop? The only known Absalom Strickler is an Absalom H. who died in Canada in 1913. Another explanation may be that there are references in family correspondence (See "A Letter from Susanna" in Chapter VIII) to Alfred as "Abb," apparently a family "nickname." Perhaps somewhere between the family and the newspaper, somehow "Abb" turned into Absalom.

Interesting: in the "death notice" from the *Dispatch* of January 28 and the *Gazette* of January 30, mention is made that "automobiles will meet trolley cars"--

presumably at the corner of Strickler School Road and the Lincoln Highway (now Route 462). The trolley line ran from York to Wrightsville.

And then Mother Nature created some complications.

FUNERAL OF MRS. STRICKLER POSTPONED UNTIL WEDNESDAY

The funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth R. Strickler, which was announced would be held this morning at ten o'clock, has been postponed on account of the snow storm until Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 from the late home along the Lincoln Highway west of Wrightsville. From an unknown newspaper of unknown date.

**

Note the inaccurate location of the home in the above obituary.

And, then, finally, they got poor Lizzie buried.

Hallam, Feb 1—The funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth Ruby Strickler, who died at Rose Dale (sic) Farm, Hellam Township, on Thursday, postponed to Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm was largely attended notwithstanding the drifted conditions of the road leading from the Lincoln Highway to the farm. The following ministers of the River Brethren from Lancaster County conducted the service from her late home, Simon H. Musser, William A. Knisley and John M. Strickler. The following members of the River Brethren all of Lancaster County, were pallbearers: Rudolph Forry, Jacob Brenneman, Harvey Hostetter, Amos Musser, David Souder, and Whitmer Sollenberger. The funeral was in charge of Edward Etwiler and Son undertakers of Wrightsville. Interment was made in Strickler's Cemetery near Wrightsville. Unknown newspaper. From The York County Heritage Trust.

**

According to Jim Rudisill, a special horse drawn box sled was used to transport the coffin from Rosevale to the cemetery. Note the references to the River Brethren (See Note 9). The John M. Strickler, one of the officiants, was Bishop John Musser Strickler, a River Brethren minister and a 5th cousin of Lizzie.

HARRIET MARY BURSK STRICKLER, FEBRUARY 1, 1956

MOTHER OF GEN. DANIEL STRICKLER EXPIRES AT HOME

Mrs. Harriet Bursk Strickler, mother of Maj. Gen. Daniel B. Strickler, died at 12:45 p.m. yesterday at her home, 116 E. Walnut St., after several months' illness.

Born in Lancaster, she was the daughter of the late Daniel S. and Mary Ellen Bursk and the widow of Calvin R. Strickler. She formerly resided in Columbia where she was active in the Presbyterian Church and was a past president of the Columbia Women's Club.

Mrs. Strickler came to Lancaster about 21 years ago. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church. For many years she was active in community and church affairs.

Surviving in addition to Maj. Gen. Strickler, stationed in Japan, are a daughter, Miss Katharine R. Strickler, at home; and a son, J. Harold Strickler, Bridgeville, Pa. Another son, Alfred Bursk Strickler, died in March, 1955. Also surviving are five grand children and a sister, Mrs. Charles Hager, Lancaster. From *Daily Intelligencer Journal*, Lancaster, PA., Thursday, February 2, 1956.

**

STRICKLER—Entered into rest in this city on February 1, 1856, Harriet B. Strickler, widow of Calvin R. Strickler, of 116 East Walnut Street. The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral without further notice from the C. Abram Snyder Funeral Home, 141 East Orange Street, on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment in Laurel Hill Cemetery, Columbia, Pa. There will be no viewing. From *Lancaster Intelligencer Journal*, February 2, 1956.

**

MRS. C. B. STRICKLER SERVICES SATURDAY

Funeral services for Mrs. Calvin B. Strickler, mother of Maj. Gen. Daniel B. Strickler, who died Wednesday at her home, 116 E. Walnut St., will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. from the C. Abram Snyder Funeral Home, 141 E. Orange St.

The Rev. Guy D. Wingerd, pastor of the Columbia Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. John M. Gordon, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, this city, will officiate.

Interment will be in Laurel Hill Cemetery, Columbia. From *Daily Intelligencer Journal*, Lancaster, Pa., February 3, 1956.

NOTES

1. West Hempfield Township

Settled sometime around 1718-1720 by an overflow of Scotch-Irish pioneers from the Donegal region and by Germans from the East Hempfield area, West Hempfield Township is traversed by a limestone belt that has weathered sufficiently to produce excellent soil for farming. Iron ore was mined in the early 1800s, and processing furnaces were located along the Susquehanna River.

Now the bucolic farmland shares a complex of commerce and industry along the new Route 30 Expressway, especially at the interchanges, and along Route 462. Many housing developments are located somewhat off the main arteries.

And, of course, the name refers to the fields of hemp grown by the early farmers.

There is a Strickler Run in the township, emptying into the Susquehanna River south of Columbia. It is not known how the name may be significant to the Stricklers who settled there.

2. Hellam Township

The land in Hellam Township is said to be exceptionally well-suited for agriculture. Thus, the township is predominately a farming community. There is virtually no industry, but there are commercial areas on the “outskirts” of the boroughs of Hallam and Wrightsville and at some points along Route 462. There are several housing developments. Most of the farms have retained the original houses and barns. The area contains the entire range of architecture from medieval German to Georgian to the more elaborate Federal and Victorian varieties in an almost text-book like setting. The primary building materials are log, limestone, and brick. It was also discovered that more historically significant sites are located in Hellam Township/Hallam than any other municipality in York County. From Kreutz Creek Preservation Society Brochure.

Before the coming of the white man, York County was the hunting ground of the Susquehannocks, a tall tribe who had driven out all other Indians. The Lincoln Highway for about five miles west-ward follows the route of the old Monocacy Road, one of the three Indian trails which ran through the county. In 1665, the Susquehannocks were attacked by the ruthless Senecas and most of them destroyed. Following the great Indian treaty at Albany, New York, in 1736, William Penn became owner of all the Indian lands west of the Susquehanna. As far as is known, no Indians have lived in York County since 1763. From *The Story of A Dynamic Community* by Betty Peckham, published by the York Chamber of Commerce.

From 1736-39, the area was under the authority of Hempfield Township in Lancaster County east of the Susquehanna. In 1739, the Provincial Assembly passed a special act to empower Lancaster County to establish townships west of the River. Hellam Township was created and included most of what is now York, Adams and Cumberland County. Hellam Township was named after Hallamshire, the township in England where Samuel Blunston, the magistrate of Lancaster County, was born. When Hallam Borough was incorporated in 1902, the town's name was spelled Hallam, the same as the English township. From Wikipedia

3. Mennonites

The Mennonites are a group of Christian Anabaptist denominations named after the Frisian Menno Simons (1496–1561), who, through his writings, articulated and thereby formalized the teachings of earlier Swiss founders. The teachings of the Mennonites were founded on their belief in both the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ, which they held to with great conviction despite persecution by the various Roman Catholic and Protestant states. Rather than fight, the majority survived by fleeing to neighboring states where ruling families were tolerant of their radical belief in adult baptism. Over the years, Mennonites have become known as one of the historic peace churches because of their commitment to nonviolence. From Wikipedia, slightly edited.

4. Swiss Mennonites

The life and culture of the Swiss Mennonites in Switzerland was largely influenced by the persecution by the State as the officers of the state tried to drive these dissenters into conformity. As they spent most of their communal energy on resisting persecution, they withdrew more and more from the world. Persecution institutionalized this basic religious tenet. Higher education was discouraged.

Farming was the chief occupation in the remote mountain valleys of Switzerland. The remoteness and the ties to the land reinforced the religious principles of integrity, industry, frugality, and simplicity of dress. Most of the Anabaptists were engaged in dairying and fruit growing in addition to the growing of the usual crops. Due to their industry and their ability to focus on the challenges of the land, they became outstanding farmers, a quality that was to appeal to rulers in other lands in later generations who offered the Mennonites religious toleration and a safe haven in return for the immigration of an industrious farming community.

As a result of the persecutions in Switzerland, a number of Mennonites immigrated to the Palatinate. This is an area of Germany which includes the cities of Mainz, Kaiserslautern, Coblenz, and Trier. Mennonite settlers began arriving in the Palatinate area from Switzerland as early as 1671. After the devastation of the Thirty Years War, in 1674, Prince Karl Ludwig, ruler of the Palatinate, offered limited religious liberty to Swiss Mennonites to settle on his wasted farmlands and restore them to productivity.

During the 100 years following the initial migrations from Switzerland, the Mennonite immigrants became subject to greater restrictions, especially after the emergence of

Catholic rulers. It was during this time that about 2,500 Mennonites migrated from the Palatinate to Pennsylvania. From <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~jvoran/voran/settle1.htm>

5. Anabaptists and Pietists

Anabaptists are Protestant Christians of the Radical Reformation of 16th-century Europe, and their direct descendants, particularly the Amish, Brethren, Hutterites, and Mennonites. Anabaptists rejected conventional Christian practices such as wearing wedding rings, taking oaths, and participating in civil government. They adhered to a literal interpretation of the Sermon on the Mount and to believer's baptism. The name *Anabaptist* is derived from this latter belief because credobaptism ("believers' baptism") was considered heresy by all other major Christian denominations at the time of the reformation period because they saw baptism as necessary for salvation and, thus, believed it wrong to delay baptism until later in life. Anabaptists required that candidates be able to make their own confessions of faith and so refused baptism to infants. As a result, Anabaptists were heavily persecuted during the 16th century and into the 17th by both Roman Catholics and other Protestants. From Wikipedia, slightly edited.

Pietism (from the word piety) was a movement within Lutheranism, lasting from the late 17th century to the mid-18th century and later. It proved to be very influential throughout Protestantism and Anabaptism, inspiring not only Anglican priest John Wesley to begin the Methodist movement, but also Alexander Mack to begin the Brethren movement. The Pietist movement combined the Lutheranism of the time with the Reformed emphasis on individual piety and living a vigorous Christian life.^[1] Though pietism shares an emphasis on personal behavior with the Puritan movement, and the two are often confused, there are important differences, particularly in the concept of the role of religion in government. From Wikipedia.

6. Horgen and the Anabaptists

Horgen is a town (pop. 18,535 in 2007) in the canton of Zürich, Switzerland, some 9 miles (14.5 km.) south of the city of Zürich (coordinates: 47° 16' 0" N, 8° 36' 0" E) on the west bank of the lake of Zürich, a village in Reformation times subject politically and ecclesiastically to the city of Zürich. There are no traces of the Anabaptists in the village and surrounding area in the early 16th century, but the presence of a congregation in the neighborhood (Horgenberg) at the end of the century and the first half of the 17th suggests there must have been some members there earlier. A group of 15 Anabaptists were arrested in Horgen in 1589, four of whom were from Horgen and seven from adjoining Wädenswil. The four from Horgen included two preachers, Hans Landis and Heini Landis, also Uli Suter and Hans Summerauer. Hans Landis was the leader of the congregation. In 1608 the strongest measures were applied to crush the Anabaptist movement in the region of Horgen, Wädenswil, and Hirzel. The records of the persecution reveal that the authorities estimated the group to consist of 40 men and women, who held their meetings in barns and

forests or in the home of the farmer Hans Landis, at "that time over 60 years of age." Little is known about the congregation, but it was discovered to have a fund for the aid of the poor administered by Jacob Isler, apparently the deacon. Landis and Isler were arrested in 1608, but both escaped from their prison (the Wellenberg) in Zürich.

On 6 January 1613, a disputation was held in the Wädenswil castle with the 15 Anabaptists who responded to the invitation, at which the Reformed pastors of Wädenswil, Horgen, and Richterswil took part. Among the Anabaptist speakers were Galli Fuchs of Richterswil, who said he had been converted by a missionary from Moravia, and a certain Bachmann. The disputation was fruitless and resulted in the renewed application of severe penalties including confiscation of property, exile, and execution. In the summer of 1613 Landis, Isler, Fuchs, Stephan Zehender, Hans Meili, and Paul Degia (Galatz) were imprisoned. Pressure to recant having failed, vain attempts were made to get them to emigrate voluntarily. The six men were then sentenced to galley slavery, but Isler, Fuchs, and Zehender at last agreed to emigrate. The other three escaped from prison in Solothurn and returned to their homes. The affair awakened great sympathy for them, and, as a result, the Anabaptist congregation grew. After a time, the three were again imprisoned. Landis was finally beheaded on 29 September 1614, the last Anabaptist executed in Switzerland, although others later died in prison. Landis' widow was imprisoned for a time.

Upon this execution, a number of the Anabaptists emigrated. In 1638, eight Anabaptists were discovered to be living in the environs of Horgen and Hirzel, three of them bearing the name Landis, and one Rudolf Baumann. In 1637 a large number was imprisoned in Zurich, one of them Hans Landis, the son of the martyr. Most of the captives were held in prison until 1640. In this year and the following years, the Anabaptist congregation was broken by the confiscation of property, and most of the members apparently immigrated to Alsace and the Palatinate.

Among those who suffered confiscation were Hans Landis, Felix Landis, Jakob Rusterholz, **Konrad Strickler-Landis** (emphasis supplied; our earliest known direct ancestor), Hans Rudolf Baumann-Landis, Oswald Landis, Uli Furrer, Hans Huber, Hans Asper, Elsbeth Hofstetter, Barbara Bruppach, Verena Bruppach (widow of Michel), and the widow of Heinrich Ritter. The proceeds of the confiscation were applied to the costs of the trials and imprisonment of the Anabaptists, and the remainder offered to the heirs who would return to the state church. This was the end of the Anabaptist congregation in Horgen, Wädenswil, and Hirzel. Numerous descendants of the Landis and Brubacher families are found today in South Germany and in the United States. From GAMEO; slightly edited in addition to the emphasis and the addition of the explanatory note.

7. Strickler Origins

Although the Strickler name appears in many countries, its origin appears to have been in the area of Waedenswil/Richterswil in the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland (See Map K). The name is derived from the term "am Strick" (also "Strich"), meaning "on the line/way/path (much as our use of the term "Mainline" to describe Philadelphia localities). The specific path in question here led from Waedenswil, passed over the mountain and

ended at Einsiedeln. The Strickler name first turned up in the "Dominion of Waedenswil," but the original Stricklers didn't live in that built-up area, preferring instead to live "on the mountain," a hilly, morainic area west of Lake Zurich. Today the village of Samstagern is situated there. The inhabitants of this sparsely settled area were of Alemannic descent. The Alemanni, a Gothic tribe mentioned by Roman writers, had invaded Switzerland and Alsace during the 5th century. From 1287 until 1549 the area belonged to the "Command of Waedenswil" under the administration of the "Order of St. John of Jerusalem" at the old castle of Waedenswil.

The family spread throughout the surrounding area, where today one finds the villages of Huetten, Schoenberg, and Hirzel. For a number of centuries the areas to which the Stricklers spread remained in the hills, close to but on the other side of the administrative district's borders. Apparently these were freedom-loving people who wanted to stay as far as possible from their overlords. They were mostly farmers or craftsmen.

Subjects of Zurich

In 1549 the Order of St. John of Jerusalem sold its Command to the City-State of Zurich, which meant that the inhabitants had to accept the Protestantism promoted by Zwingli, which had become the official religion in Zurich. The Waedenswil verged on the south and west with the Catholic regions of Zug and Schwyz. Even after the Protestant-Catholic wars of 1529 and 1531 (Kappeler Kriege) tension reigned along these borders. Early in the 16th century the Reformation liberated priests from the demands of celibacy, but the authorities in Zurich gave them control over the population. Priests, for example, took the census and registered the population. Official announcements were made in the church service.

Persecutions

For some people, the Reformation wasn't radical enough. They rejected the baptism of children as a grave error, insisting on the baptism of mature adults, thoroughly instructed beforehand in the "Gospel. They were, therefore, referred to as "Anabaptists."

Because the Anabaptists admonished their followers not to attend the state sanctioned church services and preached obedience to God alone, the government and the ecclesiastical administration regarded them as a serious threat. This led to their persecution in an effort to convert or eradicate them. Anabaptists who did not revoke their beliefs were imprisoned in Zurich. Baptist preachers were drowned in the Limmat River. So the Anabaptists went undercover. The hilly area above Lake Zurich afforded them hiding places.

At the end of 1639 the Anabaptist Commission of the Council of Zurich (designated to resolve the Anabaptist problem) undertook a radical solution. On December 5, 1639 the Commission ordered the confiscation of all Anabaptists' property and demanded that they be hunted down and imprisoned. [See Hans Ulrich Pfister: *Die Auswanderung aus dem Knonaueamt 1648-1750*]. Understandably, the Anabaptists decided to emigrate.

Poverty

Non-Baptists were also emigrating during the 17th and 18th centuries. Following the last great bubonic plague epidemics of 1611 and 1629 and a lesser one in 1635, the population had begun to increase, which led over time to serious overpopulation. From 1691 to 1693, the Canton of Zurich experienced the greatest famine in its history. Famine struck simultaneously in numerous areas with such effect that the people could hardly subsist.

Many refugees from Zurich migrated to the Palatinate [the territories west and east of the Rhine and surrounding Heidelberg, in the Kraichgau, and the territories of Neustadt at the Weinstrasse all now in Germany]. Following the Thirty Years War, the Elector of the Palatinate, Karl Ludwig, wanting to repopulate his country as quickly as possible, invited the Swiss to settle there. In *Die Auswanderung aus dem Knonaueramt 1648-1750*, Hans Ulrich Pfister, says: "As a result of large scale emigration and the death of many people during the War of Succession, the Palatinate suffered a huge population loss, which became apparent during the reconstruction process after the war. Elimination of the war devastation mandated a huge expenditure of effort, requiring that once again foreign laborers were to be summoned." From Strickler Family website:
<http://www.strickler.dolphins.ch/frame.htm>

8. German Reformed

This faith began in Switzerland in the 1500s and moved into Germany. Its tenets were promulgated primarily by John Calvin, and his followers were known as Calvinists. When the movement developed in the British Isles, it became known as Presbyterian, and that name was brought to America by the emigrants from those countries. The German immigrants who came to America retained the German Reformed name.

9. River Brethren

The River Brethren originated in 1770 in York and Lancaster counties in areas near the Susquehanna River. The followers developed a conviction that trine (triple, in allusion to the Trinity) immersion, foot washing, and adherence to plain dress was the scriptural form of religion. They opposed war, alcohol, tobacco, and worldly pleasures. In the mid 1800s, a conservative faction withdrew, calling themselves the Old Order River Brethren, aka as The Yorker Brethren because most of the members were from York County. Other Old Order congregations were established in Franklin, Montgomery, and Bedford Counties, PA, and in several counties in Ohio and Iowa. Most are now extinct. The original River Brethren church eventually became the United Brethren in Christ Church. In the early 1920s, several splinter groups developed as a result of differences, believe it or not, over the use of automobiles. In the 1950s, cars were allowed, but television was forbidden. Telephones and electricity had been allowed for a number of years. Most of the worship meetings are held in homes. All adult male Brethren

wear full beards. Opaque white head coverings are worn by the adult women. Children do not wear the traditional garb until conversion.

10. Pennsylvania Dutch

Anglicized from Deutsch (German), and also known as “Pensilfaanisch Deitsch,” Pennsylvania Dutch, more correctly, Pennsylvania German, is derived from a German dialect spoken in the Palatinate. Thus, it is probable that the dialect was used by the three brothers, their five half-siblings, and their families when they arrived in America. And, it is probable that as they learned English, they, and many of their fellow Palatine immigrants, came to use Pennsylvania Dutch. Much of the charm of Pennsylvania Dutch is the order of parts of speech in a sentence, created by differences between the Palatine dialect and English, such as “Throw the cow over the fence some hay.” Equally charming are the idioms, such as “It’s making down wet,” “It wonders me,” “It’s all,” “Ain’t not,” et al.

11. Immigration

The immigration of our forefathers leaves the author totally incapable of rational thinking. Trying to imagine what life was like in colonial America in the 1720s and ‘30s when the Stricklers arrived is beyond his understanding. Picture a family standing at a forest on the banks of a creek and saying, “This is our new home.” All they had to do was clear the several hundred acres so that they could farm it and build a house. What did they eat and where did they live while they did it? Equally difficult to comprehend is the life they must have had to endure in Europe to make the uncertainty and rigors of “The New World” attractive. And, if “getting there is half the fun,” try three months crossing the Atlantic jammed into a 100 ton sail boat. And even after they arrived, the trek from Philadelphia to Lancaster County, according to one source, was five days.

The following offers some insights into what our immigrant ancestors may have endured in order to come to America.

An Immigrant ship, The Charming Nancy

The third group of Strickler immigrants, the five half-siblings of the three original immigrant brothers, arrived in Philadelphia on October 8, 1737, aboard the “Charming Nancy.” Here is what is known about that vessel.

The ship CHARMING NANCY, 115 tons, was built at Philadelphia and was registered there on 18 November ,1736 to John Ste[a]dman (who was also the master), Alexander Andrew, and George Catanach, all of London. *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, 23 (1899), 383, where the tonnage is incorrectly given as "15." The correct tonnage is 115.

The ship CHARMING NANCY, Charles Stedman, master, sailed from Rotterdam on 29 June, 1737, arrived at Portsmouth 8 July, 1737, sailed for Philadelphia on 17 July, 1737, where she landed on 18 September; the passengers qualified on 8 October, 1737. From www.webpages.charter.net/tsiolkovsky/llgenfritz.pdf

Can you believe that time frame? The author understands that during the time in Portsmouth, the passengers were confined to the ship. And it may be that they were confined in Philadelphia from arrival until qualification.

This painting, according to the website www.ronaldecker.com/dutch.htm, is the Charming Nancy. However, it may well be simply a rendering of a typical sailing ship of the time. Regardless, do you want to spend three months on it crossing the Atlantic?

Sailing Ship Charming Nancy (Maybe)
Date of Photograph Unknown
From www.ronaldecker.org/dutch.htm



The Trip

Following are several pieces that describe the trip to America. The first is from the diary of one Hans Jacob Kauffman.

The 28th of June while in Rotterdam getting ready to start, my Zernbli died and was buried in Rotterdam. The 29th we got under sail and enjoyed only 1-1/2 days of favorable wind. The 7th day of July, early in the morning, died Hans Zimmerman's son-in-law.

We landed in England the 8th of July, remaining 9 days in port during which 5 children died. Went under sail the 17th of July. The 21st of July, my own Lisbetli died. Seven days before Michael's Georgli had died.

On the 29th of July, three children died. On the first of August, my Hansli died, and Tuesday previous 5 children died. On the 3rd of August, contrary winds beset the vessel, From the first to the 7th of the month, three more children died. On the 8th of August, Shambien's (?) Lizzie died, and on the 9th, died Hans Zimmerman's Jacobi. On the 19th,

Christian Burgli's child died. Passed a ship on the 21st. A favorable wind sprang up. On the 28th, Hans Gasi's (?) wife died. Passed a ship 13 of September.

Landed in Philadelphia on the 18th, and my wife and I left the ship on the 19th. A child was born to us on the 20th--died--wife recovered. A voyage of 83 days. From www.wwco.com; slightly edited.

This second piece provides a description of the trip from the Palatinate to America. It is written about one Jacob Hochstetter.

In order to better comprehend the difficulties that accompanied a voyage like our ancestors undertook, one needs to take a step back into the conditions of the times. From about the middle of the 17th century both Amish and Amish Mennonites were expelled from Switzerland or fled before they could be forced out.

William Penn, eager to populate (and sell) his large land holdings, enthusiastically recruited Swiss and German settlers from the Palatine. He made several trips there himself to drum up immigration to Pennsylvania. He could point to the Penn family's liberal views on religious tolerance along with thousands of acres of fertile land that were available. So it was that thousands of Swiss and Germans came to America, some directly and some passing through the Netherlands. The peak came in the mid-1700s, when some 30,000 of these people arrived in Pennsylvania.

Most of the emigrants traveled down the Rhine to Rotterdam, a journey that would ordinarily be seven to nine days but probably took far longer because of various inspections and payments, then remained in Rotterdam for some weeks until passage to America could be arranged. This was an economic as well as physical ordeal for the emigrants, all the more because they had to leave much of their capital in escrow with the government back in Switzerland until they could prove they were successfully settled--and working--elsewhere and would not return home as paupers.

The entire journey lasted from the beginning of May to November. The Rhine boats went from Heilbronn to Holland, passing twenty-six custom houses; and at each one of them, the ship had to dock and be boarded so it could be examined. This initial trip took four, five and even six weeks. After arriving in Holland, they were detained five to six weeks. At every stop, the passengers had to spend more money to survive. The last stop before departure was a week or two in a port in England (Cowes in our case), where the captain received official clearance to take the passengers to America (still considered a British colony).

Then, depending on the winds, they began their real misery as they undertook their arduous ocean crossing. It took anywhere from eight to twelve weeks before reaching Philadelphia but never less than seven even with the best winds. Passengers were packed densely like herrings, without proper food and water, and were subject to all sorts of diseases such as dysentery, scurvy, typhoid, and smallpox. It was not uncommon for many of the passengers to die of hunger and exposure in their crowded quarters or to be cheated by the merchants who arranged for passage and provisions--or by the captains who were supposed to make those provisions available. Sometimes survivors were forced to pay the costs of passage for those who had died en route; and, when they could not come up with

the funds, they were sold into indentured servitude. From www.hostetler.jacobhochstetler.com/Charming_Nancy.html; slightly edited.

This third piece was extracted from the Kreider & Gingerich book, *Amish and Amish Mennonite Genealogies* by Hugh F. Gingerich and Rachel W. Kreider, 1986, Pequea Publishers, Gordonsville, PA:

Little is known about the journeys of the Amish people in their coming to America. According to Gottlieb Mittelberger, a German traveller, who came to America in 1750 and returned four years later, the journey was a frightful ordeal. He spoke of different customs houses along the Rhine River, each involving long delays and additional expense. In Rotterdam, he observed that people were “packed into the big boats as closely as herring.” He talked about the stench of fumes, dysentery, vomiting and scurvy. Filthy food and water were major problems, as were also lice, disease, and severe storms. Overcrowding gave way to stealing, cheating, cursing, and bitter arguments between children and parents, husbands and wives. Those who lacked the money to pay for their passage, including the sick, were held on board until their future labor was auctioned off to the highest bidder.

There were frequent stops that the ship and its passengers had to pass through, and many times the passengers feared they would go down with the ship. After arriving in Philadelphia, there was another delay while a health officer visited the ship. If there was infectious disease found on board, the ship had to be removed one mile from the city until it was safe to unload passengers. It was after having survived these horrific conditions that our Jacob took his oath of allegiance to the government of America on November 9, 1738.

Once in Pennsylvania, the settlers generally moved outwards from Philadelphia and began the process of putting down agricultural roots. The Amish and Amish Mennonites lived amongst one another but kept separate; both were in turn intermingled with Lutheran and Reformed neighbors, usually also of German and Swiss origin. Gradually the Susquehanna Valley northwest of Philadelphia filled up. Crossings of that great river were established at Harris's Ferry (now Harrisburg) and Wright's Ferry (now Columbia or Wrightsville).

Note the phrase “allegiance to the government of America.” In reality, the allegiance was to the British monarchy.

The Arrival

When the Strickler immigrants arrived in America in 1725, 1727, and 1737, there was no Ellis Island to greet them. In fact, it must be remembered that they arrived not in The United States but in the Colony of Pennsylvania and were subjects of the English throne.

According to Frank Reid Diffenderfer in his *The German Immigration into Pennsylvania Through the Port of Philadelphia from 1700 to 1775*, “it was customary to take the immigrants upon disembarkation to the Court House in Philadelphia to be qualified, but this practice was varied. Sometimes this ceremony occurred at the office of the Mayor, and again at the office of some attorney, no doubt authorized for that

purpose.” The Court House, no longer standing, was at the corner of Second and Market Streets, two blocks west of the river. According to sources at the Philadelphia Free Library, the ship probably docked somewhere between Vine and South Streets. Market is several blocks south of Vine, and South is several more blocks south.

According to I. Daniel Rupp in his *A Collection of Upwards of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French, and Other Immigrants in Pennsylvania, from 1727 to 1776*, “all male persons above the age of sixteen had to be qualified, i.e., “subscribe their names, or mark their mark, to the following declaration:”

We subscribers, natives and late inhabitants of the Palatinate upon the Rhine and places adjacent, having transported ourselves and families into this Province of Pennsylvania, a colony subject to the crown of Great Britain, in hopes and expectation of finding a retreat and peaceable settlement therein, Do solemnly promise and engage, that we will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His present MAJESTY, KING GEORGE THE SECOND, and His successors, kings of Great Britain, and will be faithful to the proprietor of this Province; and that we will demean ourselves peaceably to all His said Majesty's subjects, and strictly observe and conform to the Laws of England and of this Province, to the utmost of our power and the best of our understanding.

In addition, the ship captain was questioned, as per the following example, also from Rupp:

At a meeting of the Board of the Provincial Council, held at the Court House in Philadelphia, Sept. 21, 1727, one hundred and nine Palatines appeared, who, with their families, numbered about four hundred persons. These were imported into the Province in the ship William and Sarah, William Hill, Master, from Rotterdam, last from Dover, England, as by clearance from the officers of His Majesty's customs there. The said Master being asked if he had any license from the Court of Great Britain for transporting those people, and what their intentions were in coming hither, said that he had no license or allowance for their transportation other than the above clearance, and that he believed they designed to settle in this Province.— *Col. Rec.* III. 283.

The following piece provides an overview of the entire immigration experience, offering some background that led up to the immigration and then describing the trip to Philadelphia.

The Great Migration

In the 1680s William Penn, a leader of the Quakers, received a charter from the king of England and wanted to populate his lands with productive farmers and his towns with skilled artisans. Penn soon became the foremost salesman for his province. By 1685, about eight thousand Quakers from England, Wales and Ireland had already immigrated to Pennsylvania. From an earlier journey to Holland and Germany in 1677, he had first-hand knowledge of the desperate situations of his fellow Christians as far up the Rhine as

Mannheim. His promotional tracts, also published in Dutch and German, appealed to thousands of Germans from the Rhineland Palatinate. The promise of religious freedom and the opportunity to own their own land was an answer to prayer to these masses who had suffered for centuries at the hands of the ruling dukes, princes, emperors and archbishops in their homeland. His pamphlets promised an exciting adventure to all, with a government in which *"the people and governor have a legislative power, so that no law can be made, nor money raised but by the peoples consent."*

The War of the Grand Alliance, fought against the invader King Louis XIV of France at the end of the Seventeenth Century, punctuated the despair of the people in the Rhineland Palatinate as their villages and cities were laid to waste. Following the end of the war, the people were slow to rebuild and were easily tempted by many opportunities promised in foreign lands. The winter of 1708-09 was unusually cold in the region, freezing and destroying many trees and vines. Queen Anne of England solicited as many as 13,000 Palatines ("*Pfälzer*") to come to London where they would be dispersed to Ireland, North Carolina and the Hudson River Valley in America.

In 1717 three small ships brought 363 German Palatines to Philadelphia. In 1730, a Dutch pastor in Rotterdam estimated that *"15,000 Reformed confessors of the Palatinate"* had settled in Pennsylvania. Later research indicates that estimate was too low, perhaps sufficing as an absolute minimum. Many records show that after the migration began, it soon accelerated in response to glowing reports written to friends and relatives back home. Most of those who ventured to America were landless farmers and rural laborers willing to take the risks of the journey for the uncertain gains they might receive. There also were many younger sons who had no birthrights in Germany, and were intrigued by the opportunity to freely seek their own fortunes.

Crossing the Atlantic

Contemporary accounts of the cost of passage from Rotterdam to Philadelphia in 1750 say the fare was £10 (sixty florins) per person, with children five to ten years old charged half-price. Assuming these fares, the Meÿ and Lorentz party of nine adults, and possibly some children, paid Captain Russel at least £90 for the Atlantic crossing.

In 1748, a total of only seven immigrant ships sailed from Rotterdam to Philadelphia. However, soon afterward the number of immigrants seeking passage would grow, with the following six years being the busiest of the century. More shipmasters were finding it profitable to fill their holds and decks with human cargo. The Meÿ and Lorentz party was on board the first ship to leave Rotterdam that year. They knew very little about the large, untamed land they soon would enter. In stark contrast to the region they had known as home in Germany, their new home would be in the middle of a sparsely populated wilderness.

Allowing about ten weeks for the voyage to America, we can estimate the date that the *Edinburgh* left its mooring in Rotterdam with the Meÿs aboard to be about the first of July, 1748. After clearing the channels of the Rhine delta, Master James Russel maneuvered his crowded sailing vessel across the choppy tides of the English Channel from Holland to Portsmouth, England. This route took the immigrants through the Straits of Dover where they saw the famed white cliffs in England and the quite sandy shore of Calais in France. In

Portsmouth, a large seaport in southern England, the British authorities checked the ship's manifest and gave official approval for Russel to continue on to the Colonies. Authorization to approach Portsmouth on the waters between the Isle of Wight and the mainland was often delayed for larger ships owned by the Crown, and for more important ship companies. Often the immigrant ships were sent to the smaller port of Cowes on the island. The time for the channel crossing and the approval process in England could, much to the dismay of the passengers, take as long as two weeks.

After leaving Portsmouth about mid-July, the treacherous and unpredictable Atlantic lay before them. These were the warmest months for crossing the ocean, and despite the risks it was the best season to transport immigrants. However, as we are reminded every year, this also is the season for hurricanes moving westward from the lower latitudes and ravaging the Atlantic shore of North America. Fortunately, despite the weather, most ships sailed from England to Pennsylvania in less than eight weeks. The passengers were typically in very bad physical condition upon arrival. The captains had no resources to meet the needs of such a large number of people, and they gave little sympathy to complaining immigrants. Those traveling in family groups were capable of caring for each other, so they had the best chance to survive the journey. From a family website, www.mayhouse.com.

Thus, immigrants began their new life in their new land—and our Stricklers went off to the farm in what would become West Hempfield Township, some eighty miles distant.

12. Kreutz Creek

Kreutz Creek (See Maps B, D, and E) is an integral part of Strickler Family lore. Several of the family farms, including Rosevale, are on its banks as are/were the several mills. The creek begins from two small streams in the northwest corner of Windsor Township, south and west of Hellam Township. It flows north toward Yorkana and then on toward Hallam Township. Once in Hellam Township, it meanders from west to east, at times flowing north and south, emptying into the Susquehanna River south of Wrightsville. Virtually all of Hellam Township is in the Kreutz Creek Valley. The valley is between Mt. Pisgah on the south and the Hellam Hills on the north.

Kreutz Creek also was known as Grist Creek, probably after one of the early English settlers, John Grist. There is some debate over the origin of the official name. Some say it is from the name of an early German settler near its mouth, George Kreis. The more accepted version is that it is because of the union of two streams that results in what the Germans call a Kreutz, a cross. The Kreutz name came into general use, according to one source, about 1736. However, on a 1770 map, it is called Grice Creek.

13. Other Children of Heinrich Strickler, Jr., and Anna Beidler Strickler

In addition to Jacob C., our direct ancestor, Heinrich, Jr., and Anna had six other children. Five of them moved to various locations in Pennsylvania. Their children then relocated to, et alia, Illinois, Iowa, and Ohio and propagated new lines of Stricklers.

- Henry Strickler (1750-1816), married Anna Rhode, moved to Antrim Township, Franklin County, PA, eight children.
- Susanna Strickler (1755-1830), married Joseph Bixler, moved to Fayette County, PA, 11 children.
- Veronica Strickler (1759-1790), married Daniel Leathers, moved to Bald Eagle Township, Clinton County, PA, unknown number of children.
- Magdalena Strickler (1761-?), married Christian Stoner, Jr., remained in Hellam Township, unknown number of children.
- Anna Strickler (1763-1831), unmarried, unknown future residence.
- Joseph Beidler Strickler (1764-1813), married Elizabeth Neiswanger, moved to Rapho Township, Lancaster County, Pa, seven children.

14. Alfred and Lizzie were Second Cousins

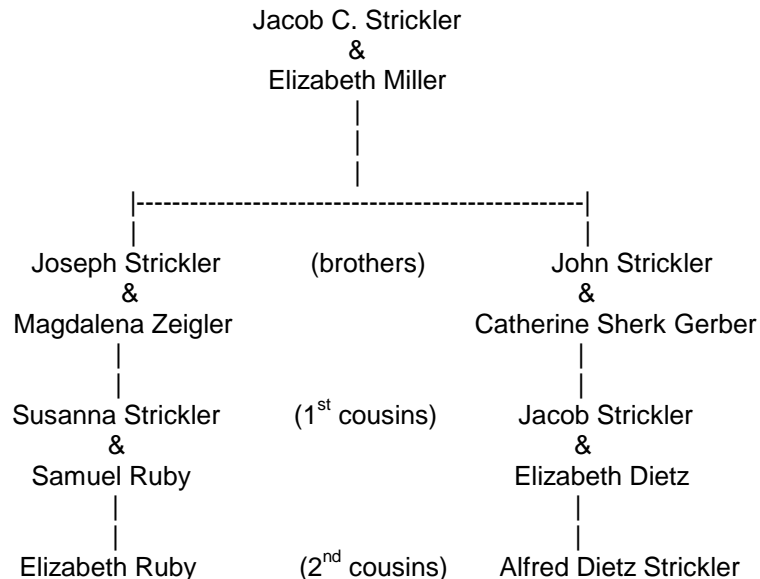
Alfred Dietz Strickler and his wife, Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby, were second cousins, because:

Jacob C. Strickler (1755-1837) and Elizabeth Miller (1755-1838) had nine children, including (a1) Joseph Strickler (1785-1852) and (a2) John Strickler (1786-1836)

(a1) Joseph Strickler (1785-1852) married Magdalena Zeigler (1791-1846). A daughter, (b1) Susannah Strickler (1829-1910), married Samuel Ruby (1816-1892); they had a daughter, (c1) **Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby** (1845-1928).

(a2) John Strickler (1786-1836) married Catherine Sherk Gerber (1790-1876). A son, (b2) Jacob Strickler (1811-1892), married Elizabeth Dietz (1819-1897); they had a son, (c2) **Alfred Dietz Strickler** (1843-1902).

Thus, (b1) Susanna Strickler and (b2) Jacob Strickler, as children of siblings, were first cousins, and (c1) **Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby** and (C2) **Alfred Dietz Strickler** as children of first cousins, were second cousins.



15. General Slocum Statue Dedication and Alfred Dietz Strickler's Death

Henry Warner Slocum (1826-1894) was a Civil War general from Syracuse, New York. His involvement in The Battle of Gettysburg as commander of the XII Corps warranted a battleground statue. Located at Steven's Knoll on Culp's Hill, it was dedicated in Gettysburg on Friday, September 19, 1902. Attending the ceremonies were members of the 7th Regiment, New York National Guard, from the New York City area. Although this unit did not participate in the battle, members apparently attended because of Slocum's ties to New York military. The group was returning to New York City on Sunday, September 21, 1902, when the locomotive of the train struck and killed Alfred Dietz Strickler. The photograph shows the dignitaries and the just-dedicated statue of General Slocum at Gettysburg. Wonder if anyone in the photograph was on the train? Betcha yes!

General Slocum Statue, Gettysburg, PA
September, 19, 1902
From www.gettysburgsculptures.com



Major - Gen. H.W. Slocum Bronze Equestrian Statue Gettysburg Pa.

General Dimensions: Granite pedestal: 21'-8" long 15'-10" wide, 16'-3 1/2" high. The bronze statue including plinth is 15'-6" to the top of the head of the rider. The plinth measures 11'-9 3/4" long and 4' wide. Weight of bronze: approx. 7300 pounds.

Total cost \$29,941.57.

Note that General Slocum was neither wounded nor killed in action (he died in 1894); all four of the horse's feet are on the ground.

Major General Henry Warner Slocum

Born: Sept. 18th, 1827 - Died April 14th 1894



Henry Warner Slocum was born in Delphi, a hamlet in Onondaga County, New York. Educated at the Cazenovia Seminary, Slocum found employment as a teacher. Slocum entered the United States Military Academy, graduating in 1852, seventh in his class of forty-three. Serving in the Seminole Wars and other locations, Slocum spent time while in garrison studying law. Resigning his commission, he practiced law in Syracuse, New York.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Slocum re-entered the military as Colonel of the 27th New York Infantry. Slocum commanded a brigade and several divisions before his appointment to command the XII Corps on October 20, 1862.

At Gettysburg, Slocum in command of the 12th Corps and the famous "right wing," arrived several miles from the battlefield on July 1, 1863. Slocum hesitated to bring his men to Gettysburg. This delay earned him the name "slow come."

When the southern army attacked the northern battle line on July 2nd, Slocum supplied troops. He left a lone brigade to occupy Culp's Hill. This brigade, supported by other northern troops, held off an evening southern attack.

At General Meade's July 2nd evening meeting with his Corps commanders, when asked of his opinion about the Army of the Potomac staying at Gettysburg, Slocum stated "stay and fight it out."

After Gettysburg, Slocum with his Corps was transferred to the western campaigns. Here he did great service with Sherman's army, resigning from the army on September 28, 1865.

After the war Slocum returned to civilian life, working as a lawyer and serving several terms in Congress. He held several civilian positions until his death in 1894. From www.gettysburgsculptures.com; slightly edited.

16. Huguenots

"The Huguenots were members of the Protestant Reformed Church of France (French Calvinists) from the sixteenth to the seventeenth centuries. Since the seventeenth century, Huguenots have been commonly designated "French Protestants," the title being suggested by their German co-religionists or "Calvinists." Protestants in France were inspired by the

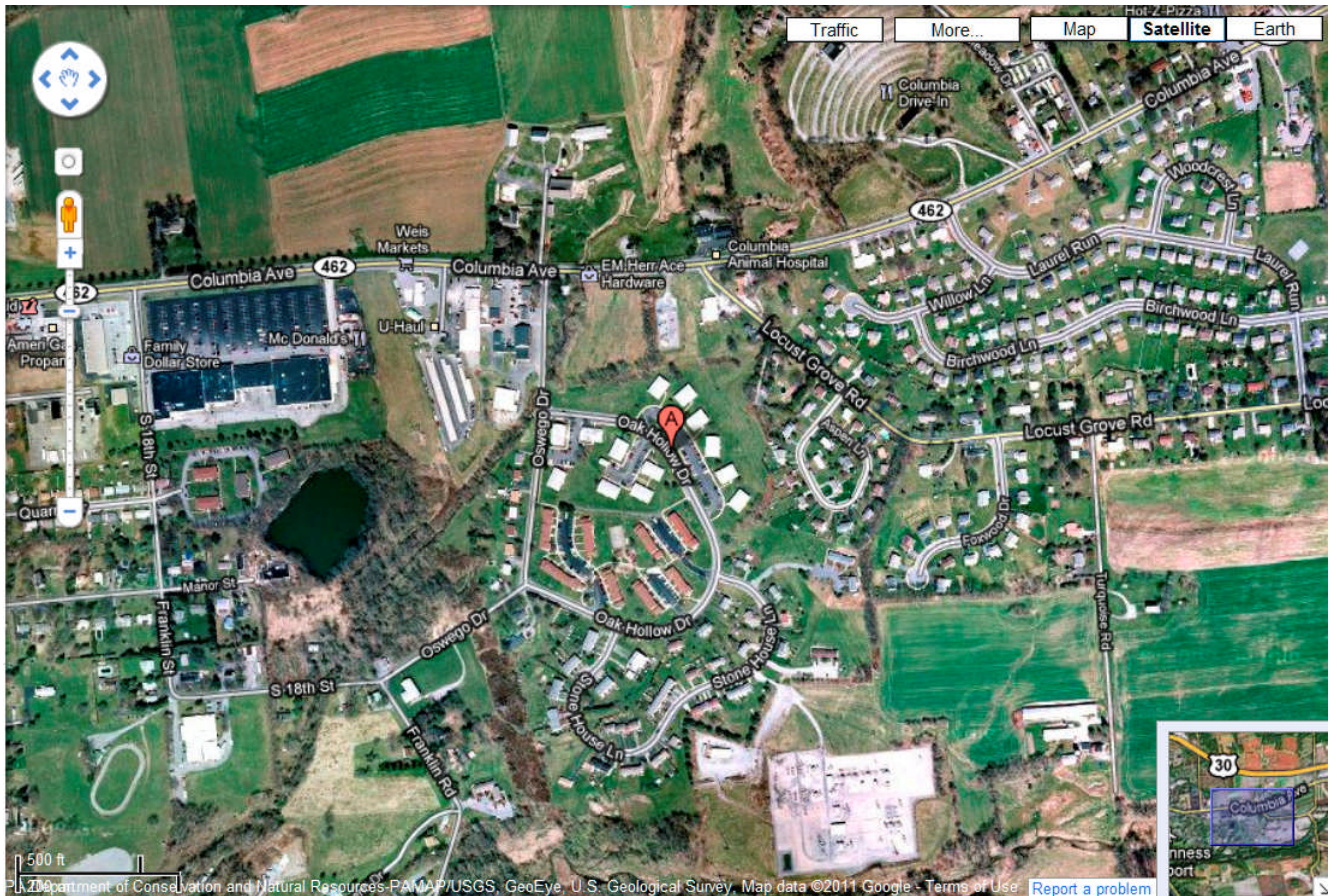
writings of John Calvin in the 1530s, and the name Huguenots was already in use by the 1560s. By the end of the 17th century, roughly 200,000 Huguenots had been driven from France during a series of religious persecutions. They relocated primarily in England, Switzerland, the Dutch Republic, the German Electorate of Prussia, the German Palatinate, and elsewhere in Northern Europe, as well as to what is now South Africa and to North America. From Wikipedia, slightly edited.

APPENDIX A

MAPS AND AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

MAP A

PORTION OF WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP



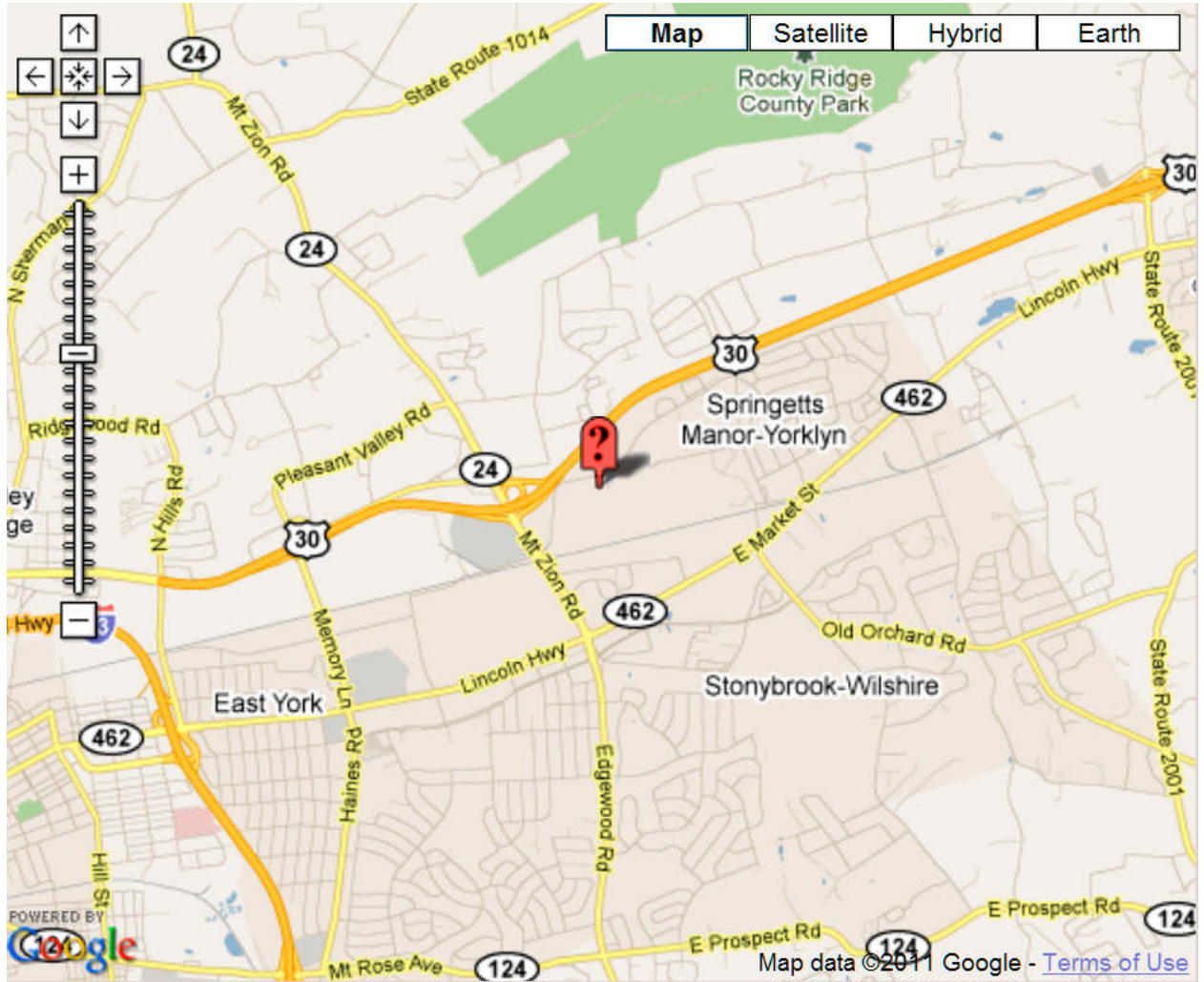
MAP B

PORTION OF HELLAM TOWNSHIP, 1860



MAP C

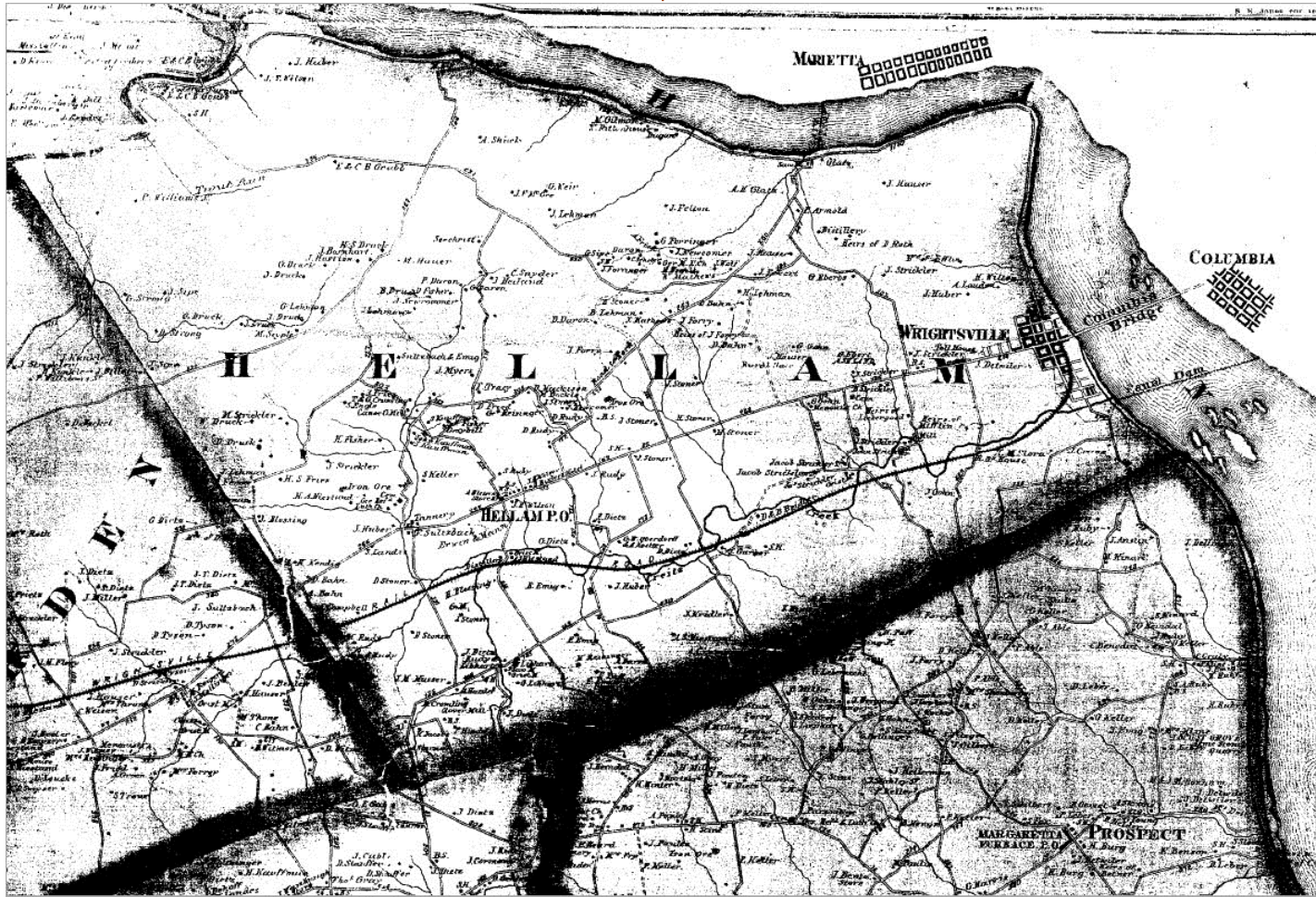
PORTION OF SPRINGGETTSBURY TOWNSHIP, 2010



The “?” in the red indicator is the approximate location of the York County Facilities and The Strickler Springettsbury Township Homestead.

MAP D

HELLAM TOWNSHIP, 1860



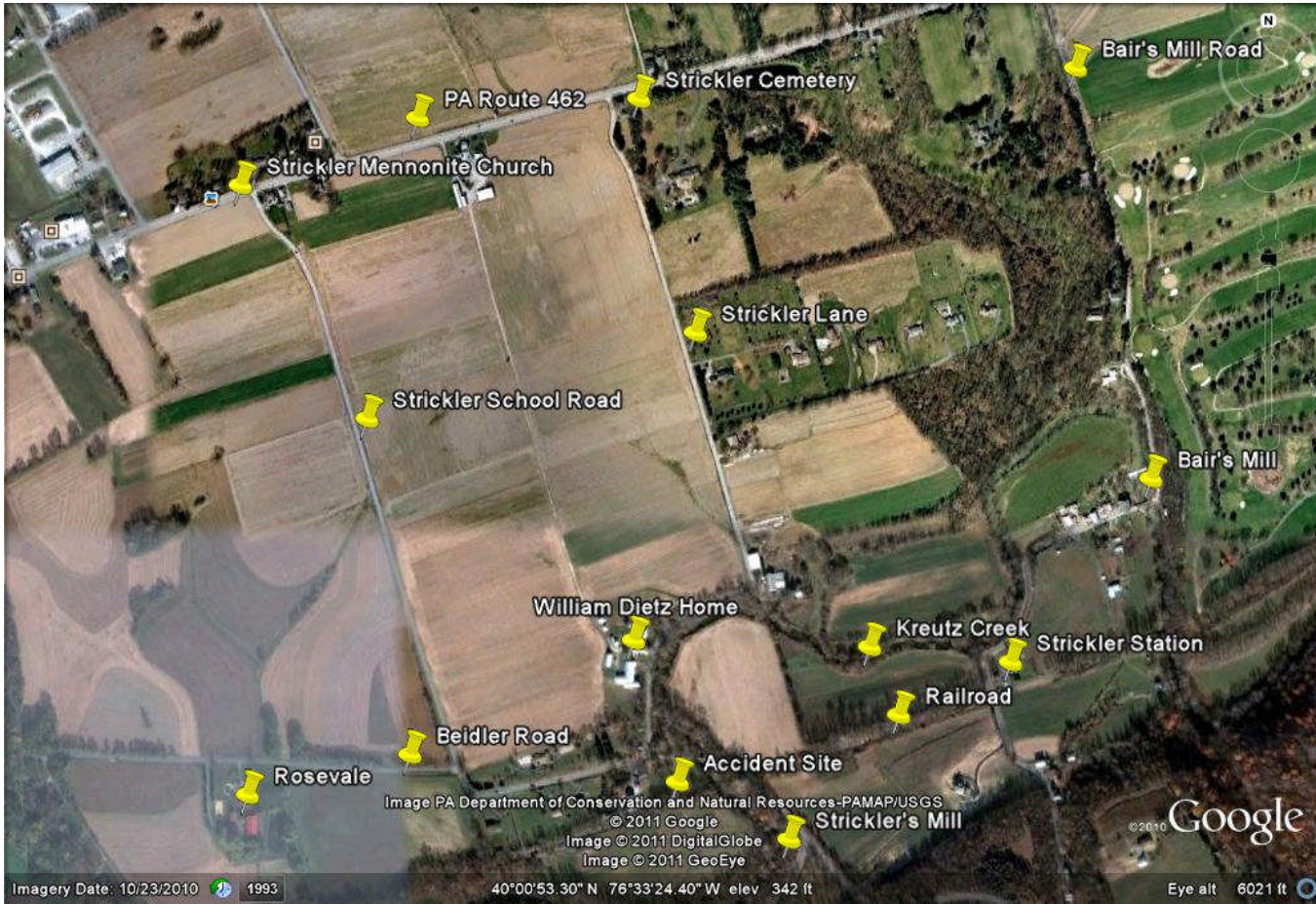
MAP E

HELLAM TOWNSHIP, 2003



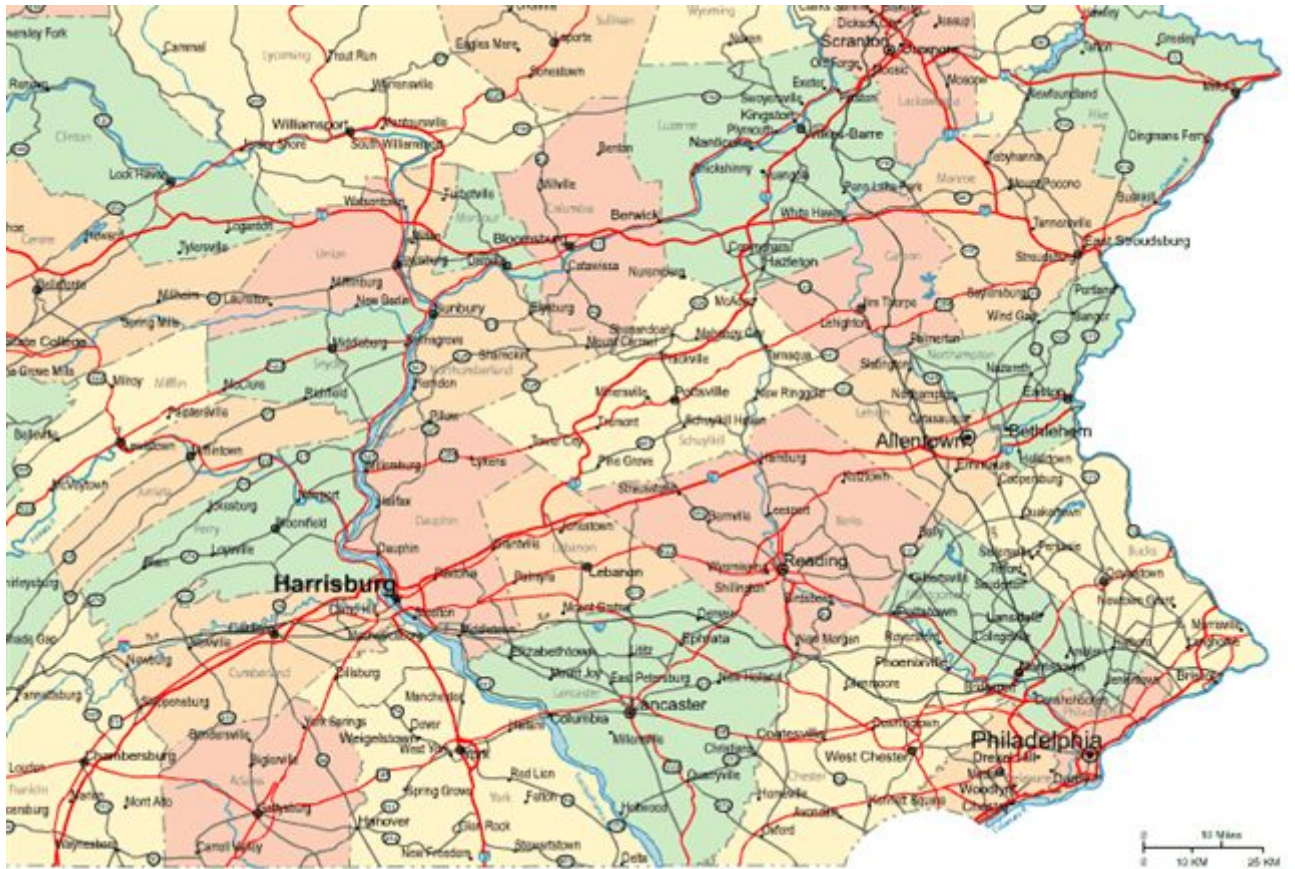
MAP F

“STRICKLERVILLE”



MAP G

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA



MAP H

RHINELAND-PFALZ, GERMANY



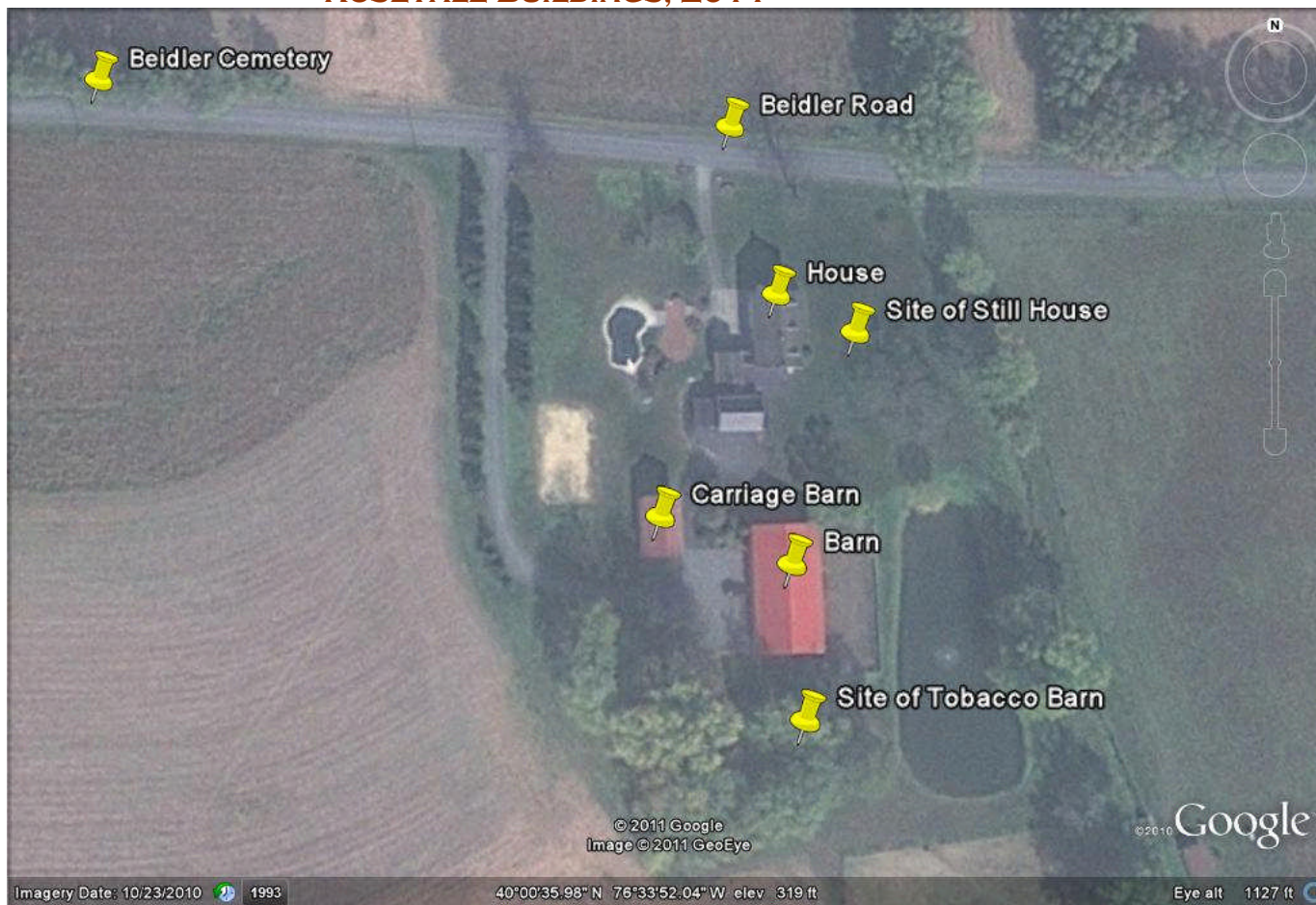
MAPS I-1 & I-2

ROSEVALE

These satellite photographs should assist in locating the various buildings and identifying the over-all farm area.

MAP I-1

ROSEVALE BUILDINGS, 2011



West of the house are the patio and the swimming pool. The volleyball court is southwest of the pool. At the southwest corner of the house, the addition is the summer kitchen, and attached to the south of it is the three car garage. The pond is east of the barn.

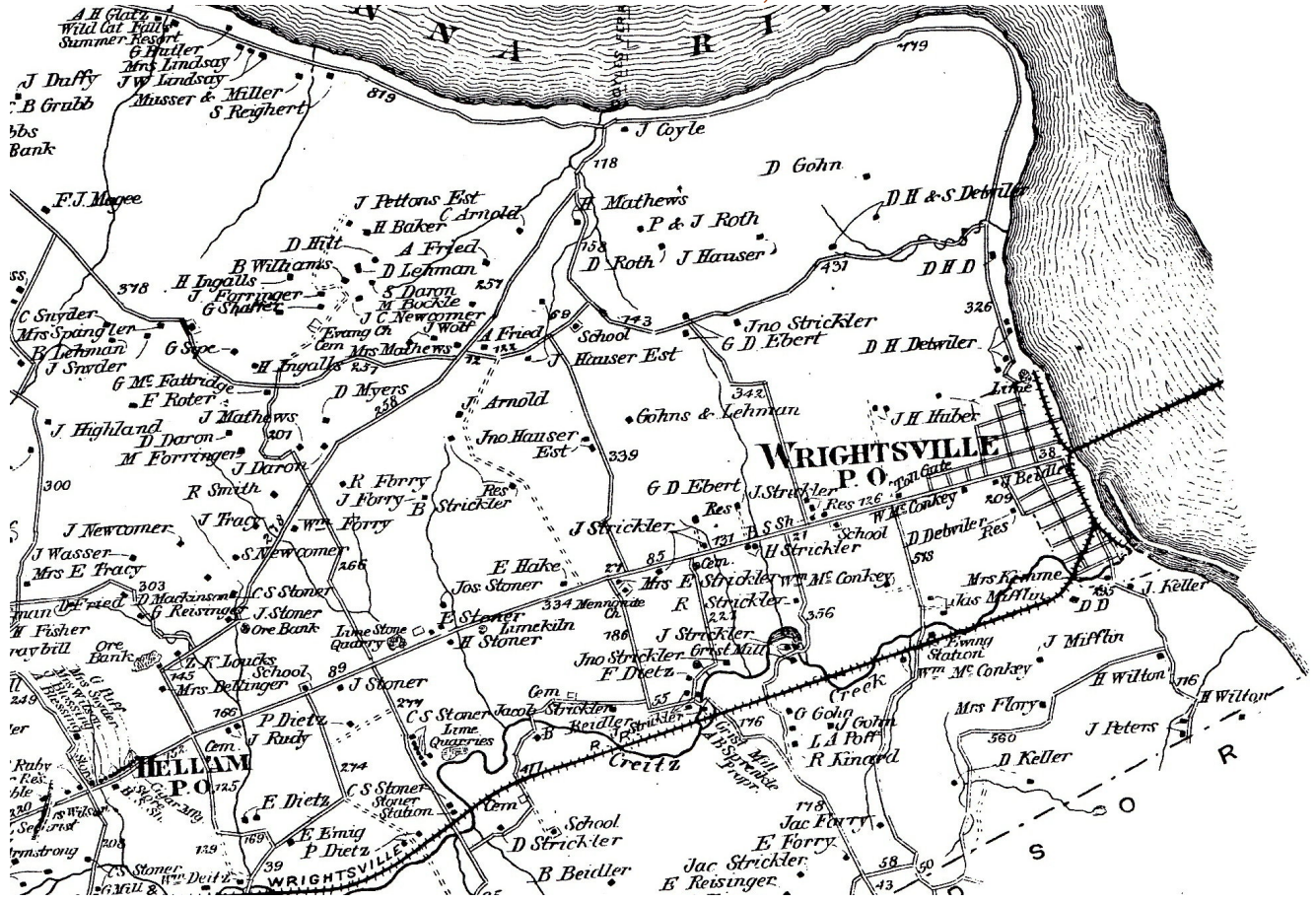
MAP I-2

ROSEVALE OVER-ALL FARM AREA, 2011



MAP J

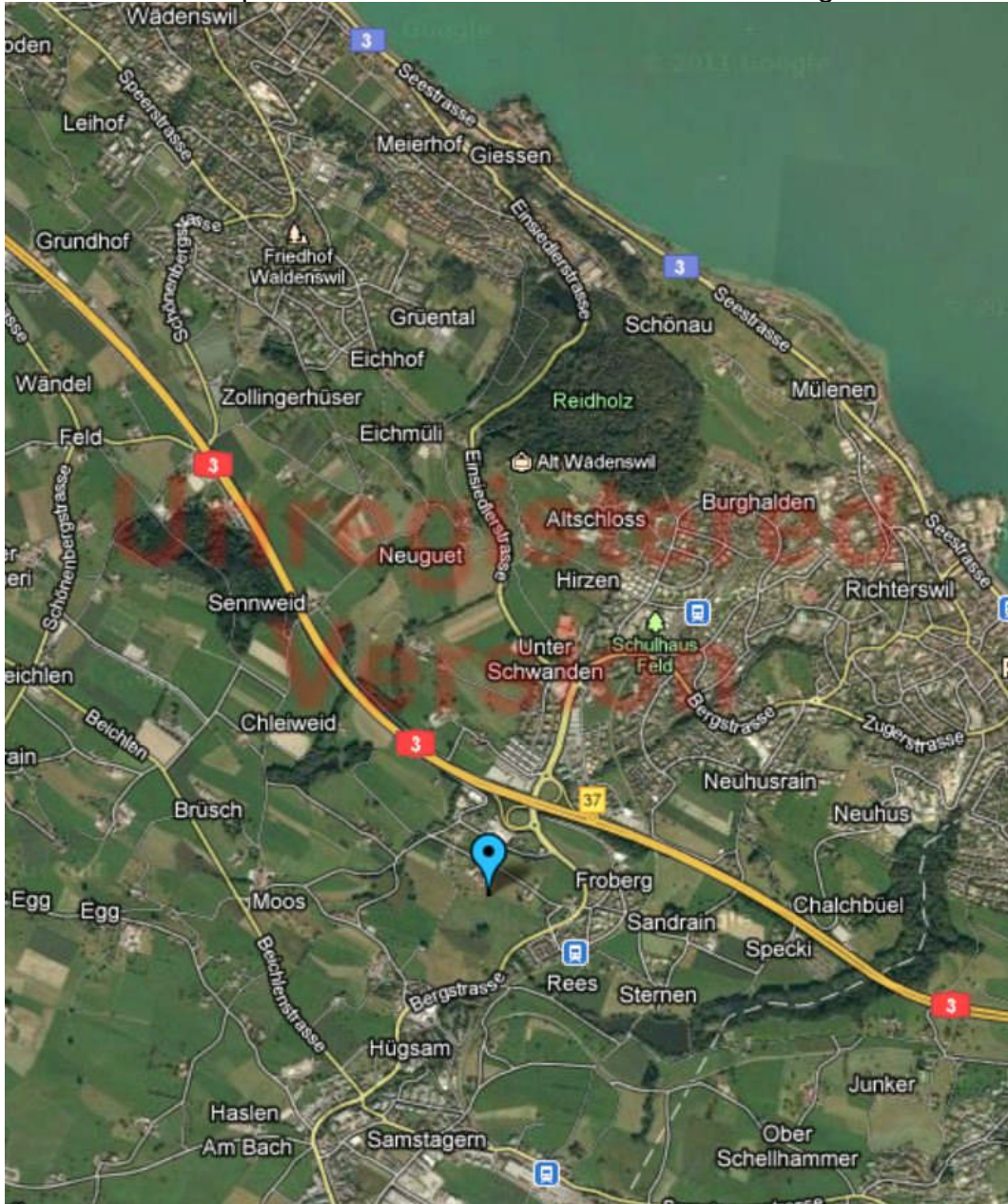
PORTION OF HELLAM TOWNSHIP, 1876



MAP K

SOUTH SHORE OF THE LAKE OF ZURICH, 2011 HOME AREA OF THE EARLY STRICKLERS FROM GOOGLE MAPS

Note that Hirzel is spelled Hirzen. The blue indicator is of no significance.



APPENDIX B

THE BATTLE OF WRIGHTSVILLE AND THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER CROSSINGS

PART A

THE BATTLE OF WRIGHTSVILLE

A portion of the Battle of Wrightsville was waged on Strickler farms in Hellam Township. One might wonder whether Alfred, then twenty years old, might have been a member of the militia or one of the volunteers. After all, his home was directly in the path of the Rebels' march. Or did his Mennonite teachings prevail? There is nothing in family lore or in any source to indicate his participation as a combatant. Nor is there any information that any of his several cousins "joined up."

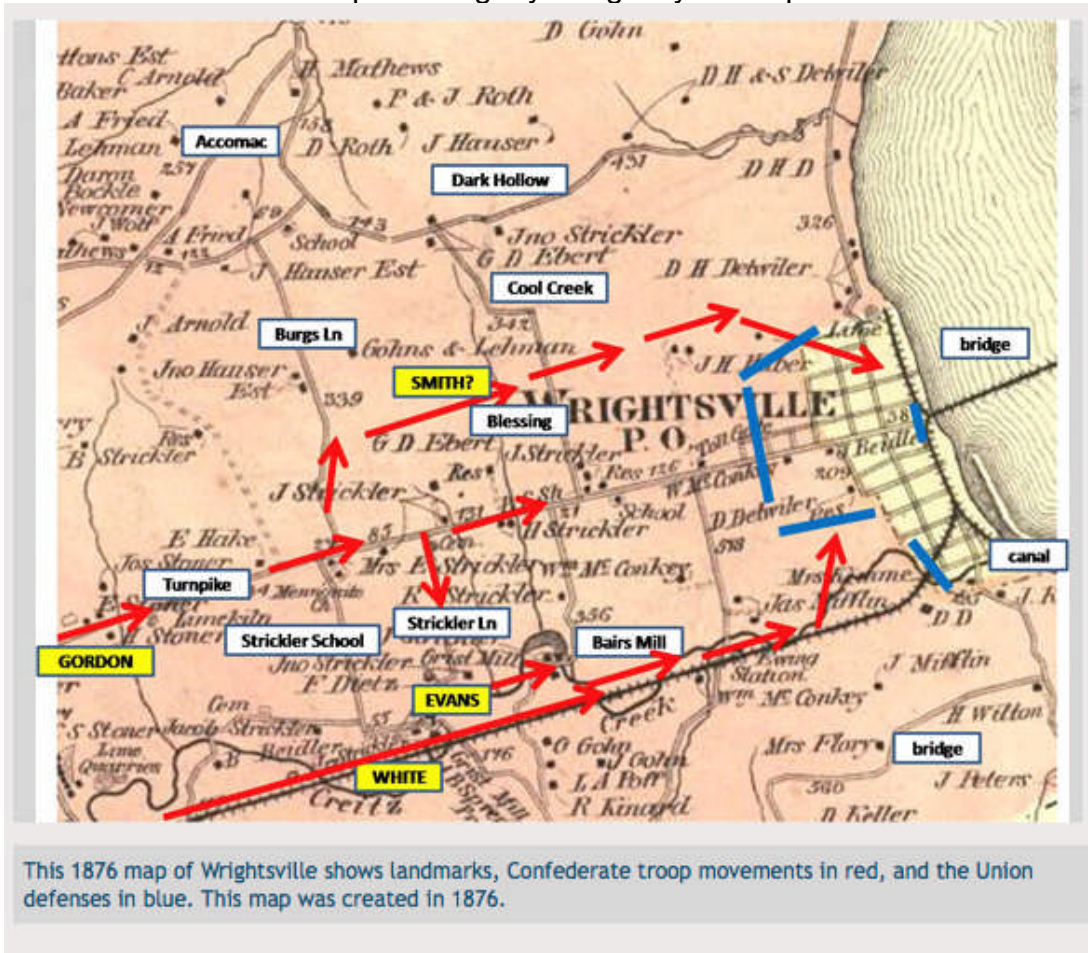
While it really was more of a skirmish, this over-looked action, of just one day's duration, was a major turning point in the Civil War. General Lee thought that the capture of Harrisburg, the state capitol, would be a major achievement, even more so than taking Philadelphia. So, he planned a two-pronged offensive—from the front and the back. He sent General John Brown Gordon and his Georgia brigade, which several days before had entered Pennsylvania near Chambersburg, to the east, through Gettysburg and York and then on to Wrightsville, where he was to cross the Susquehanna River to Columbia and then head northwest to attack Harrisburg from the rear. Wrightsville was defended by a force of some 650 volunteer militia, a company of 53 "Negro Volunteers," and another 650 related troops under Col. Jacob G. Frick, to go against Gordon's force of 2,200 plus another 400 related personnel.

The plan was thwarted when at about 8:00 on Sunday evening, June 28, 1863, the mile-long wooden covered bridge that spanned the river between the two towns was torched by Union soldiers at the Wrightsville end after the failure of an attempt to blow up one span at the same end. By daybreak, it had totally burned and collapsed into the river. Unable to complete their mission, Gordon's forces retreated to Gettysburg, and the rest, as they say, is history. Some observers have said that if the Battle of Wrightsville had not had the result it had, there would have been no Battle of Gettysburg, and

In marching from York to Wrightsville, elements of Gordon's army followed the thirteen miles of railroad that ran through Hellam Township and by /through Strickler farms, including Rosevale, burning thirty-three wooden bridges behind them. (Some sources claim that they burned them in frustration on their way out of town, a more logical explanation.) For the most part, the soldiers fulfilled Lee's mandate to spare civilians and private property except that they did acquire more than a few horses.

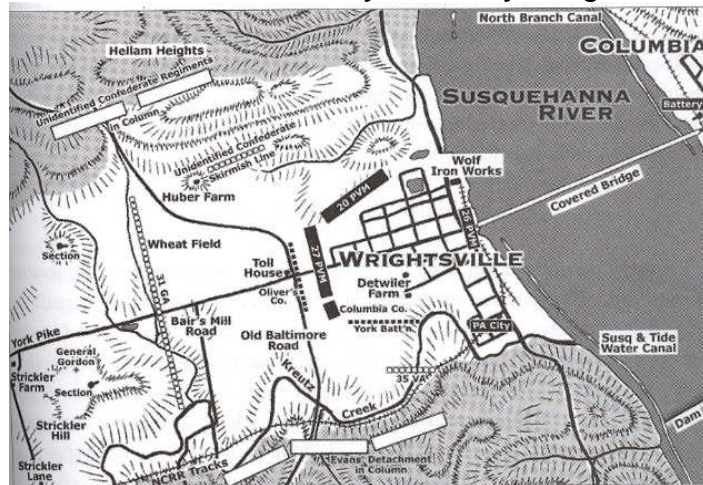
This map shows the overall area in which the battle was fought.

The Battle of Wrightsville
From <http://www.gettysburgdaily.com/?p=5610>



On this map, the bottom left corner shows the area of “Stricklerville” where Gordon’s troops were active. Along Strickler Lane, Confederate guns were positioned and fired on Wrightsville. Part of the Courtney (VA) Artillery under the command of Captain William Tanner was positioned on Strickler Hill.

Civil War Activity in “Stricklerville”
 June 28, 1863
 From *Flames Beyond Gettysburg*



This painting is of the burning bridge. The Columbia end is in the foreground.

Portrait by Bradley Schmehl
 Date of Painting Unknown
 From *Flames Beyond Gettysburg*



An interesting anecdote to the burning of the bridge is that when the fire began, Confederate soldiers sought buckets and pails from the Wrightsville residents. Unfortunately, none could be found! However, shortly thereafter, when the flames had spread to buildings in town, buckets and pails suddenly appeared. Moreover,

Rebel troops, taken by the plight of the residents trying to save their homes and possessions, joined in fighting the fires.

Following the war, the bridge owner, The Columbia Bank and Bridge Company, sought restitution for damages from the US Government. In spite of the fact that the destruction resulted from orders given by the Union Army, restitution was not paid.

PART B

THE GRAVE OF THE UNKNOWN CONFEDERATE SOLDIER

By the side of the road near the Accomac Inn, along the river just north of Wrightsville, lies the grave of a Confederate soldier. The marker reads "C.S.A. Unknown June 1863." The Sons of Union Veterans placed the permanent marker there to observe the 125th anniversary of the soldier's death. It is one of the few graves of Confederate soldiers in York County and may be the only Confederate grave outside a cemetery.

How the soldier died remains unknown. Some people speculate that he was a spy who was shot or that he could have drowned while searching for a good place for the Confederate troops to cross the Susquehanna River.

Grave of the Unknown Confederate Soldier
Date of Photograph Unknown
From Hellam Township Website



PART C

WRIGHT'S FERRY

After the original Lancaster County settlers moved into York County beginning in 1729, commerce between the two areas was dependent upon a means of crossing the Susquehanna River. Just a year after the first settlers moved to York County, one John Wright began the operation of a ferry service.

Wright's Ferry (1730-1901) was an animal powered ferry established by John Wright in 1730 and was the very first means of crossing the Susquehanna River, almost a mile wide. It transported goods, animals, and people as the region was first seeing the pioneer settlements. The river came to be the political boundary between the two counties connected by the ferry, joining the two towns that came to be known as Columbia and Wrightsville. The ferry was located immediately south of the present-day Columbia-Wrightsville Veterans Memorial Bridge on Route 462, the Lincoln Highway.

Traffic heading west from Lancaster, Philadelphia, and other nearby towns regularly traveled through Wright's Ferry, using the ferry to cross the river. As traffic flow increased, the ferry grew, to the point of including canoes, rafts, flatboats, and steamboats, and was capable of handling Conestoga Wagons and other large vehicles. Due to the volume of traffic, however, wagons, freight, supplies and people often became backed-up, creating a waiting period of several days to cross the river. With 150 to 200 vehicles typically lined up on the Columbia side, ferrymen used chalk to number the wagons.

The early ferry itself consisted of two dugout canoes fastened together with carriage and wagon wheels. When numerous cattle were moved, the canoeist guided a lead animal with a rope so that the others would follow. If the lead animal became confused and started swimming in circles, however, the other animals followed until they tired and eventually drowned. As the years went on, the technology was improved, eventually including watercraft which could convey heavy Conestoga wagons, which were being built contemporaneously in Conestoga, Pennsylvania on the west (sic) bank of the river.

Typical fares were as follows: coach with four passengers and drawn by five horses-9 shillings; 4-horse wagon-3 shillings and 9 pence; man and horse-6 pence.

Fares were reduced in 1787 due to competition from Anderson's Ferry, located further upstream, near Marietta.

In later years, Wright rented the ferry to others and eventually sold it. Due to increased competition from the railroad in the 19th century, the ferry finally ceased operations in 1901. From Wikipedia.

We can assume that Conrad and his successors who moved to York County made use of Wright's Ferry, which, incidentally, was the original name for the Borough of Wrightsville.

PART D

THE WRIGHTSVILLE-COLUMBIA BRIDGES

Six bridges have spanned the Susquehanna River between Wrightsville and Columbia. Two remain: one is on Route 462 between the downtowns of the two towns; the other, known as The Wright's Ferry Bridge, is about a half-mile north on the new US Route 30 expressway.

Previous to the building of the first bridge, John Wright's Ferry plied the river between the two towns. But, since winter freezes seriously curtailed commercial activity, a group of local investors financed the construction of the first bridge.

Located north of the present Route 462 structure, it was a covered bridge, constructed from oak and pine harvested from the nearby forests. It opened in 1814. At 5,690 feet in length and built on 54 piers, it was said to be the longest covered bridge then in the world. Tolls were \$1.50 for a wagon and six horses and six cents for a pedestrian. On February 18, 1832, ice floes crushed five spans and carried them downstream. Over the next several days, other spans failed, and ultimately the entire bridge was destroyed.

On July 8, 1834, a new bridge (#2) was opened, some 1,500 feet downstream from the first one, just a shade north of the existing Route 462 structure. It, too, was a covered wooden bridge. At 5,620 feet and also considered the then longest in the world, it required 27 stone piers to support the 200 foot-long spans. It had a carriageway and a walkway plus two tow paths for guiding canal traffic across the river. Most of the wood was salvaged from the recently destroyed bridge. Tolls for a wagon and six horses were reduced to one dollar while the pedestrian toll remained at six cents. Over the ensuing years as the new railroad industry developed, it became desirable that trains should be able to use the bridge. However, the bridge owners feared fires from the coal burning locomotives. In 1850, a compromise was reached to solve the dilemma. Rail was laid, but locomotives were not permitted on the bridge. Cars were uncoupled at the bridge entrance, the locos were turned around on newly built turntables, and mules and horses towed the cars to the other side where another locomotive was attached to continue the trip.

Burned by the Union Army in the battle of Wrightsville in 1863, this (#2) bridge was replaced five years later by an iron bridge (#3) which was destroyed by a wind-storm in September, 1896, and replaced by an iron truss bridge (4) in early 1897. All of the replacement bridges used the 27 stone piers from the #2 wooden bridge, all but two of which remain today and can be seen from either of the two remaining bridges. Until the existing Route 462 bridge was built, bridge #4 accommodated both rail and vehicular traffic. Tolls were 20 cents per car plus 4 cents per passenger; pedestrians paid 3 cents.

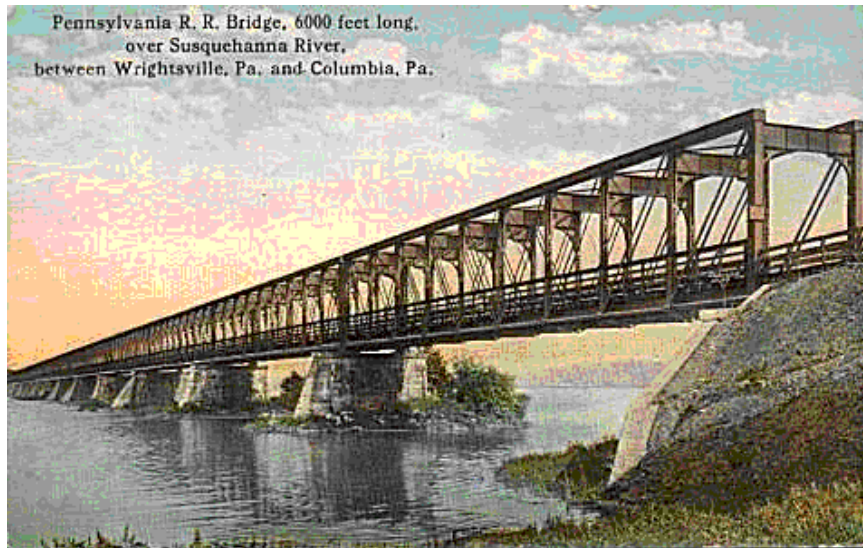
The 1897 structure was dismantled in 1964 when train service between York and Lancaster was discontinued.

The existing 5,183 foot long Route 462 bridge (#5), for vehicles and pedestrians, opened in September, 1930. Family lore is that the author's grandfather, Morgan Eugene Gipe, was a member of the entourage that made the initial crossing of the bridge as part of the opening ceremonies, possibly in his role as a founding president of the York Rotary Club. This bridge is said to be the longest concrete multiple arch bridge in the world. The Route 30 crossing was opened in 1972 for an expressway linking York and Lancaster and by-passing Hallam, Wrightsville, Columbia, and Mountville. Much of the above text is from *Flames Beyond Gettysburg* and Wikipedia.

Wrightsville-Columbia Bridge #2
Ca. 1850
From *Flames Beyond Gettysburg*

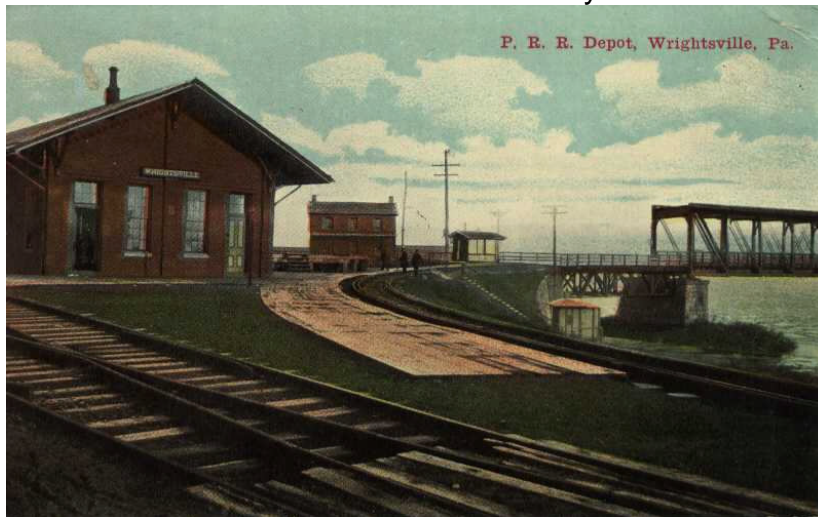


Wrightsville-Columbia Railroad Bridge #4
Date of Photograph (1897-1964?)
From www.millersville.edu



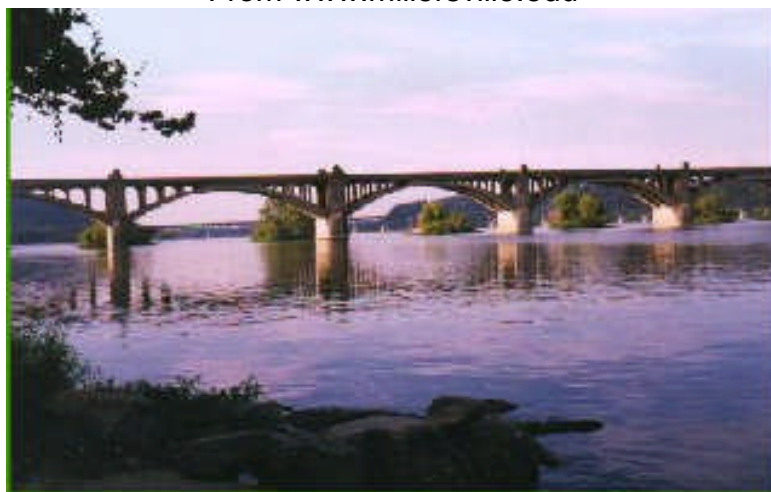
Note in this photograph that the tracks are coming into the station area from the south, even though York is to the west. The line runs west to east from York about two miles south of what is now Route 462 and swings north just south of Wrightsville. The route of the two tracks to the left of the station is unknown.

Wrightsville PRR Station and Wrightsville-Columbia Bridge #4
Date of Photograph Unknown (1897-1964?)
From Railroads of York County.Com



This view is from south of the bridge, looking north. The tufts of foliage just behind the bridge, to the north, are the original piers for bridges 2, 3, and 4.

Wrightsville-Columbia Automobile/Pedestrian Bridge
Opened 1930
Date of Photograph Unknown
From www.millersville.edu



APPENDIX C

SUGGESTED READINGS

Note: some of the following entries are websites. It is possible that some no longer are available. The author accessed many over a number of years.

Anabaptists and Related Information

Global Anabaptist Movement Encyclopedia Online

www.gameo.org

Bair's Mill

Photographs and some information about this early Strickler mill.

<http://www.millpictures.com/mills/details.cfm?millid=239>

Battle of Wrightsville

Wrightsville Part 1 with York County Civil War Guide Scott Mingus, by Scott L. Mingus, Jr. .

A description (with video) of the Battle of Wrightsville in and around the Strickler farms in Hellam Township. Mr. Mingus is a respected Civil War historian.

<http://www.gettysburgdaily.com/?p=5610>

Beidler Diaries

An absolutely fascinating accounting of daily life in Hellam Township for nine of the years between 1861 and 1873 from the diaries of John Stone Beidler of Wrightsville, owner of a lumberyard, and a distant relative. There are many references to various Stricklers.

<http://www.usgwarchives.org/pa/york/area.htm>

On the main page, scroll down a bit to the section headed "Local History." Each of the nine years of the diaries follows.

Fort Egypt

<http://web.mac.com/pwb3/FortEgypt/Home.html>

A website for the restored original house; photos of each room, floor plans, references. A must visit.

Grist Mill Operation

A quite fascinating video of the Newlin Mill in operation is available at: www.newlingristmill.org. On the home page, from the menu on the left, select "The Park." From the pop-up menu, select "Historic Complex." On the new page, scroll down to "Watch the Mill in Operation and select the appropriate link.

See also: www.newlingristmill.org/millzone/article.html

An excellent account of the operation a typical grist mill, with drawings.

The Newlin Grist Mill is a restored 1704 mill in Glenn Mills, PA, well-worth a visit.

Hellam Township

www.hellamtownship.com

Click on the "History" button in the row near the top of the page. Select desired subjects from the "drop down menu." Attention is directed especially to "History of Hellam Township," "Hellam's Barns," and "Kreutz Creek."

Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education

<http://hornfarmcenter.org> (overall)

<http://www.yorkblog.com/yorktownsquare/2008/02/horn-farm.html> (history)

Ibersheim

Global Anabaptist Movement Encyclopedia Online

www.gameo.org.

On the main page, select "Encyclopedia Index." On that page, select letter "I." On that page, scroll down to Ibersheim (Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany).

Pennsylvania Dutch History, Genealogy, and Culture

www.horseshoe.cc

Probably the most complete website that the author has found on the Swiss Mennonite and German Palatines. A must visit.

Ruby Family History

http://astro.temple.edu/~ruby/ruby_family/abbreviated.htm

http://astro.temple.edu/uby/ruby_family/ruby_supplement.htm

Two exceptional discussions of the family from its European beginnings, the first by Jay William Ruby, the second, a supplement by his son, Jay Ruby, Jr.

Strickler, David Evans and The Banana Split

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banana_split

A Google search for "Banana Split" will reveal additional related websites

Strickler Family Genealogy Reference Book #1

Strickler's of Pennsylvania: A History of the Strickler families who emigrated from Switzerland and settled principally in Bucks, Lancaster, York, and Lebanon Counties in Pennsylvania; The Strickler Reunion Association of Pennsylvania, 1942, Abigail H. Strickler, et al. This book is available as a reprint from Higginson Book Co., Salem, MA (www.higginsonbooks.com). The book contains errors.

Strickler Family Genealogy Reference Book #2

Forerunners: A History or Genealogy of the Strickler Families, Harry M.

Strickler, Self-published, 1925

This book is said by most Strickler genealogists to contain many errors, most based on information discovered since its publication and some based on faulty assumptions at the time of its writing.

Strickler Family Website #1

www.Stricklers.org

Rather informative and helpful

Strickler Family Website #2

www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/index-2.html

This website was created by Frank Duff who acknowledges that it was taken over by others and is somewhat out of date. But it is helpful.

APPENDIX D

A STRICKLER COAT OF ARMS

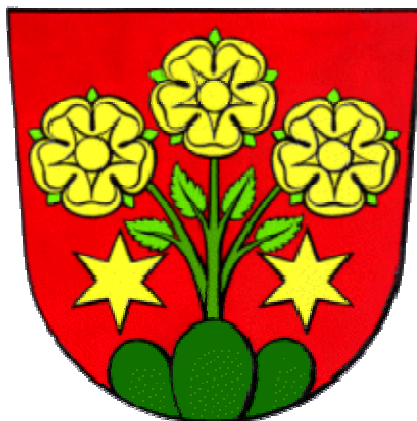
BACKGROUND

A coat of arms is, strictly speaking, a distinctive heraldic design on a tunic used to cover and protect armor, but the term is more broadly applied to mean a full heraldic achievement which consists of a shield and certain accessories. In either sense, the design is a symbol unique to a person, family, corporation, or state. Such displays are also commonly called armorial bearings, armorial devices, heraldic devices, or arms.

Historically, armorial bearings were first used by feudal lords and knights in the mid-12th century on battlefields as a way to identify allied from enemy soldiers. As the uses for heraldic designs expanded, other social classes who never would march in battle began to assume arms for themselves. Initially, those closest to the lords and knights adopted arms, such as persons employed as squires that would be in common contact with the armorial devices. Then priests and other ecclesiastical dignities adopted coats of arms, usually to be used as seals and other such insignia, and then towns and cities to likewise seal and authenticate documents. Eventually by the mid-13th century, peasants, commoners and burghers were adopting heraldic devices. The widespread assumption of arms led some states to regulate heraldry within their borders. However, in most of continental Europe, citizens freely adopted armorial bearings.

Despite no widespread regulation, and even with a lack in many cases of national-level regulation, heraldry has remained rather consistent across Europe, where traditions alone have governed the design and use of arms. Unlike seals and other general emblems, heraldic achievements have a formal description called a blazon, expressed in a jargon that allows for consistency in heraldic depictions. From Wikipedia, slightly edited.

A NEW STRICKLER COAT OF ARMS



There are many Strickler coats of arms which have been handed down over time from family to family; however, most often their sources cannot be accurately traced.

In 1950, a coat of arms bearing several cord symbols was created. Although the German word for cord is "Strick," the cords were thought by many Stricklers to be inappropriate and misleading, for their use implies an untrue root derivation of the family name. Stricklers are not German; they are Swiss.

In July, 2000, this coat of arms was created by a group of interested Stricklers, using the customary precepts of Swiss heraldry, to represent all the Strickler families of the world. Traditional elements of what are believed to be the oldest coats have been combined to create a coat that all lines of the family can identify with and that will be historically meaningful to all of the branches of Stricklers who stem from the common root, that ancient pathway or trail then named "am Strick," which began in the hills at the southernmost edge of Richterswil. The color selection stems from the two colors used for the shield of the city of Richterswil, the birth land of the antecedent name "am Strick."

Mounted on a red background are three golden roses, which two branches of the Strickler family have previously employed in their shields. Their stems project upward from a green triune heraldic symbol. The green triune is the only symbol present on all older Strickler coats, and, therefore, it might be assumed that this was one of the original symbols of the family. Beside the rose stems are two golden stars which add to the shield's heraldic authenticity, having been used in various Strickler family coats of arms in the Canton of Schwyz.

This new crest was created by Anton Christen of Zurich.

It is not known who or what groups made the decisions described above.

From <http://www.strickler.info/gall-e.htm#home>
<http://www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/coats.html>

Pictures of and commentary about another twenty or so Strickler coats of arms are available from the author.

APPENDIX E

POINTS TO PONDER

In putting this book together, the author asked himself a number of questions, some a bit “off the wall.” Here they are.

- With what did the immigrants travel? Just the clothes on their back? With a steamer trunk(s) full of “all their worldly goods”?
- Did they bring money with them? Was German money good in America or was there a money exchanger at the immigration center in Philadelphia? Or perhaps there was one in England where they had a lay-over. If they didn’t bring money with them, how did they buy 161 acres in Hempfield Township? Did the folks back in Germany send it by Western Union?
- How did they get from Philadelphia to Hempfield Township? Was there an Avis Rent-a-Wagon booth at the immigration center? How did they know how to get there? How did they know when they got there? Did the wagons have a GPS?
- Remember, the first two brothers had their wives and a total of three toddlers. Where did they live from when they arrived in Hempfield Township until their house was completed? Certainly there was no Hempfield Hilton.
- Was there a local Home Depot where they bought the farming and building tools and supplies?
- Were there other earlier settlers in the area to help with the building and land clearing or was it a total DIY?
- What motivated Conrad, and later Heinrich, Jr., to move to York County? How did they learn about it? Did Heinrich meet Anna Beidler after he moved, or was she the reason he moved?
- How did Morgan, in York, get to Rosevale, about 13 miles away, to court Susie? They were married in 1896. Did Morgan have one of the very early autos? The York–Wrightsville Trolley line did not begin to operate until 1904. Don’t tell me he rode horseback? How did they meet?
- The same question might be asked of Calvin. He had to get from Columbia to see Harriet in Lancaster, and apparently the Columbia-Lancaster trolley had not begun prior to their 1894 marriage. How did they meet?
- How did Alfred and Lizzie meet? Rosevale and the Ruby farm were a good five miles apart (See Map B: the S. Ruby farm, below the first “L” of “LLA” to the Jacob Strickler farm below the “A”). Or, did they meet at the Strickler Mennonite Church? But, it was a “fer piece” for the

Rubys to travel. Or perhaps they were school mates, two grades apart or so, at Strickler School; but it ,too, was a bit of travel for Lizzie. Of course, they were second cousins, so maybe they met at a “family reunion.” Regardless of how they met, Alfred had that five mile trek to “go-a courting.”

Hmmmmmmmm. As Alfred and Lizzie probably would have said, “It wonders me.”

APPENDIX F

STRICKLER NAME HISTORY

Records of the Strickler family date to the mid 13th century. The following pages contain a variety of the oldest known records of the Strickler family. This is not an exhaustive list and each year new records are slowly being uncovered. I have chosen to include records here up to 1600. The reason for this is that the main parish register for Richterswil dating before 1600 was destroyed by fire so records for Richterswil families are limited. This list should help to define the early Strickler families for which no other record now exists. From www.geocities.ws/ibersheim/early.html.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Source</u>
1250	Klaus am Strick	am Strick	Strickler, Gustav, 1926
Estimated birth year of Klaus am Strick who is listed in 1320 on a list of monks serving the cloister order of Einselden for the Royal House of Wädenswil under the command of Johannitaurihaus.			
1320	Klaus am Strick	am Strick	Strickler, Gustav, 1926
Klaus is recognized by the Royal Order of the Knights of the House of Johannitarius of Wädenswil as a monk of high respect having served the people well for about 50 years and is now himself about 70 years of age. Because of his service he is granted family right to the farm he calls Fridhübsch (roughly meaning Beautiful Freedom) along the strick near the common ground. He is instructed to care for the land and is appointed overseer of the common grounds.			
1325	Niklas am Strick	am Strick	Strickler, Gustav, 1926
In a deed of release dated 1325, Klaus am Strick released his rights to the Fridhübsch estate to his son Niklas am Strick for the duration of his life.			
1331	Niklas am Strick	am Strick	Tax Order; Strickler Gustav, 1926
Niklas "Klaes" am Strick pays an annual tax of 3 Pfennings but is then termed exempt from further taxation called levee free because of his service to the Order in which he has been a good steward of the common grounds and in its oversight of its management. Note in 1331 he is not called a monk.			
1348	Niklas am Strick	am Strick	Strickler, Gustav, 1926
In 1348 Niklas is recognized by the Royal Order of the Knights of Wädenswil for carrying on the honorable work of monk.			
1350	Rudi am Strick	am Strick	Strickler, Gustav, 1926
The rights of the estate of Fridhübsch was given to Rudi am Strick son of Niklas am Strick. Rudi am Strick is taxed there.			
1366	Rudi am Strick	am Strick	Tax Order of Wädenswil
Rudi am Strick pays tax at Fridhübsch. His wife is called Elsenithi he has seven children, 5 sons and two daughters. He pays a tax of 3 Pfennings. He is ordered to provide butter for the Royal Order. He has 27 cows and 4 horses.			

1371 Anna & Elsi am Strick am Strick Strickler, Gustav, 1926
In 1371 Anna and Elsi am Strick appear on a list of those delivering butter to the collection master. No further details are known. They are probably the two daughters of Rudi am Strick.

1384 Cueni am Strick am Strick Tax Order of Wädenswil
Cueni and Dietrich am Strick pay tax on the estate of Fridhübsch.

1384 Dietrich am Strick am Strick Tax Order of Wädenswil
Dietrich and Cueni am Strick pay tax on the estate of Fridhübsch.

1384 Dietrich am Strick am Strick-Richterswil 176-StAZ C I 240 Blatt 11
Dietrich am Strick becomes compliant to Jose. Eberhart of (Richterswil?) for 8 Pfennings (Land at Richterswil)? He was called a freeman of no levee.

According to Gustav Strickler, by 1384 Dietrich am Strick had moved from Fridhübsch farm nearer to the town of Richterswil. He left owing his portion of tax at Fridhübsch and was sued by Joseph Eberhart the tax collection agent. However Dietrich was declared a freeman of levy because he was at that time a single man and owning no property of value.

1391 Wernli, Claus, Anna am Strick am Strick 175/StAZ C II 4 Nr.361
From a document of the Religious Knights of the Order of Wädenswil: “Wernli am Strick” is listed in the commons record entry where he and his wife Anna were owners of the estate called Fridhübsch which bordered on one side the common land and the other another estate. It was subject then to the tax authority of the Religious Knights of the Order of Wädenswil.

Wernli am Strick, son of Rudi, with wife Anna, sell with the consent of his brother Claus am Strick a monk in the Orderhouse of the Monkhood of Wädenswil, certain right to the land near the farm Fridhübsch to the order for 8 pfenning etc...

In 1391 Wernli am Strick and wife Anna, with the consent of his brother Klaus a monk of the cloister Wädenswil retains rights to the farm leased by to them by the cloister. They mortgage a second portion of the estate to the cloister. (Gustav Strickler, 1926)

5 Sep 1391 Wernli & Claus am Strick Fridhubach St AZ C II 14 Nr.34
Brother Rudolph Wisso who sits in Wädenswil as the deputy to Count Hartman von Werdenberg, bishop of Chur and Commander of the Order of St. John’s of the Holy Order of Jerusalem of Wädenswil, to court publicly writes: Be it known that Wenli am Strick son of Rudi am Strick has blessedly given with his wife Anna (and the consent of his brother Claus am Strick) 8 pfennings of inhabitant tax to brother Johans of Lupfistein the representative of the Johannites of Wädenswil, as mortgage for 2 quarters for the inhabitants of the land. This annual mortgage serves the Seelgerat and is for the property of Fridhübsch that abuts the common land as well as the other property of Fridhübsch called Landrastuel. The main mortgage tax is due to Martini at Wädenswil castle. Rudolf Wisso deputy of the Order Johannites seals this mortgage. Witnessed by Chonrad Bürster, Ruedi Wiman, Welu Widmer, Hans Amman, Hans Schmid, Ruedi Minner, Claus Minner and sufficient different respectable people.

1400 Wernli & Claus am Strick am Strick Tax Orders
Wernli am Strick is on the tax rolls living at Fridhübsch adjoining the common land and the land of Landreatuel farm owned then by Claus am Strick.

- 1401 Wernli & Claus am Strick** am Strick Tax Orders
Wernli am Strick is on the tax rolls living at Fridhübsch adjoining the common land and the land of Landreatuel farm owned then by Claus am Strick.
- 1402 Wernli & Claus am Strick** am Strick Tax Orders
Wernli am Strick is mentioned in the Stuerrodel (tax lists) living at Fridhübsch. He is taxed there for 3 pfennings 12 shillings. His land was adjoining the common land and the farm of Claus am Strick called Landrastuelhof. The amount of the tax levied is twice that of any other estate indicating that the estate was large and prosperous.
- 1410 Rudi am Strick** am Strick VII 1936-Siete 55
Rudi am Strick moved to Richterswil and levied tax-free. He takes up citizenship with the city of Richterswil and lived outside of Richterswil beyond the jurisdiction of the Royal Order of Wädenswil and now in the jurisdiction of Zürich He was a carpenter. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)
- 1413 Cueni am Strick** am Strick-Stoben VII 1936 Seite 46
Cueni am Strick pays tax on interest for the farm called Stoben on the Strick near the Gumgrirand gelegene meadow. He pays 6 quarters to the Johanniterhaus of Wädenswil interest of 4 Muett and 3 quarter cores. (Frick 175)
- 1414 Welti Strickler** am Strick Strickler, Gustav, 1926
Welti Strickler is levied as a tax-free resident of Fridhübsch being a singleman. He is probably a younger son of Wernli Strickler and wife Anna.
- Sep 1416 Cueni am Strick** am Strick VII 1936 Seite 46.
Cuni am Strick listed on the tax list taken by the Confederation of Lamparten for the Valley. He is called the Säumer of the main people of the inhabitants of Zürich state.
- 29 Sep 1420 Wernli & Heini am Strick** am Strick SttAZ C II 14 Nr. 49
Wernli and Heini am Strick are cosigners with Heni Tusser and his sons Rudi and Welti "Richlislechen" received from the Johanniterhaus as Handelhen.
- 18 Nov 1427 Marty am Strick** am Strick StAZ C II 14 Nr. 51
Marty am Strick turns over goods to the lords of the Royal Order of Wädenswil to cover the tax on the property sitting on the Strick.
- 1450 Althans am Strick** am Strick Tax Indexes of 1450
Althans am Strick (b.c1405) lives at Fridhübsch had son Heini (b.c1430) who later moved to Sternen and opened an inn in 1468. Althans also had a son Junghans (b.c1428). (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)
- 1468 Heini am Strick** Wirt-Sternen VII 1936- Seite 105
Heini am Strick, a landlord, is mentioned in the tax books at Wirt (Sternen).
- 1470 Heinin Strickler** Wirt-Sternen Wild 149
Heinin Strickler, son of Althans Strickler of the Strick is the innkeeper of Wirt am Sternen.
- 1470 Althans, Junghans, Rudi Strickler** am Strick Wild 149
Zurich tax records show Althans, Junghans and Rudi Strickler all taxed at their estate on the Strick called Fridhübsch. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)
- 1488 Grosshans Strickler** Berg Richterswil Frick 175
Grosshans Strickler of Berg Richterswil at the estate of Fridhübsch pays tax of 6 quarters

and interest of 2 chickens on the property at Benkli in the Neurbchr at the Strick. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1488 Kleinhans Strickler Berg Richterswil Frick 175

Kleinhans Strickler of the estate called Fridhübsch pays tax of 5 Muett cores 4¾ cores annually to the Royal Order of the Knights of Wädenswil. The land ran from Fridhübsch to Lanstrudle.

1488 Rudi Strickler Berg Richterswil Frick 175

Rudi Strickler now of Spitzen gives tax of 1 Muett Kemen for land he lived on at Fridhübsch. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1489 Hans Strickler Fridhübsch am Strick II 1931 Seite: 56

Hans Strickler is named representative of the people in the tax rebellion. He was from Fridhübsch. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1500 Hans Strickler am Strick Strickler, Gustav, 1926

Hans Strickler is a resident of Fridhübsch and pays tax there.

1504 Kurzheinz, Uli and Hans Strick near Richterswil Gluckstafenrodel

These three individuals probably descend from the "am Strick" family but appear to have never taken the name of Strickler. They however may have altered their name to Stricker.

1504 Hans & Rudi Strickler Fridhübsch Tax Indexes of 1504

Hans and Rudi Strickler are taxed at Fridhübsch. Hans was formerly called Kleinhans. Rudi is called the son of Hans.

8 Jun 1505 Hans Strickler Richterswil-Rotenblatt Frick 176

Hans Strickler lives at Blowasen Rüti (later called Rotenblatt) at Dunklemoos near the brook near the pond. He is responsible for paying tax there.

1507 Uli Strickler Richterswil II 1931 Seite: 25

Uli Strickler paid 6 marks to Conrad Enflehart of the Johanniterhauses of Wädenswil.

1507 Ruti Strickler Fridhübsch Peter Ziegler 2000

Rudolf Strickler lived at Fridhübsch in 1507. He is called Ruti and Rudi Strickler. Hans Strickler listed in 1504 is not listed in 1507. He may have died between 1504 and 1507.

1512 Rüdin Strickler Kneus/Chneaus/Cneus VII 1936 Seite: 151

Rüdin Strickler (b.c1445) is found in the Zürich Spitalrechnungen (literally hospitality register) listed as a regular butter supplier supplying from 144-314 pounds a year from the farm at Kneus.

1512 Rüdin & Weltin Strickler Kneus/Chneaus/Cneus Tax Indexes of 1512

Rüdin Strickler and son Weltin Strickler (b.c1460) are taxed at Cneus on the Sihl River for 2 pounds.

1512 Hermann Strickler Finstersee Tax Indexes of 1512

Hermann Strickler pays tax on a farm at Finstersee. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1512-1513 Rudi Strickler Kneus VII. 1936 – Seite: 151

Rudi Strickler of the farm Kneus is ordered to provide 144-314 pounds of butter to the officials in the city of Zürich by order of the Royal House for the year of 1512-1513.

(Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1512 Hans Strickler Schwanden Samstagern Seite-17

In 1512 Hans Strickler owned the farm called Schwanden. He required landright there in

1512. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1514 Weltin Strickler Kneus/Chneaus/Cneus Tax Indexes of 1514
Weltin Strickler is listed as living at Cneaus. No mention of Rüdin Strickler the 1512 butter supplier. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1515 Weltin Strickler Cneus Tax Indexes of 1515
Weltin Strickler pays tax on the farm called Cneus. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1515 Uli, Grosshans & Hans Strickler Marignano War III 1932-Seite 30
Uli, Grosshans and Hans Strickler fought in the bloody battle of Marignano under Captain Rudolf Rahn.

1515 Grosshans & Hans Strickler Marignano War III 1932-Seite 30
Grosshans and Hans Strickler fought in the bloody battle of Marignano under captain Engelhard.

24 Aug 1515 Hans, Junghans & Aberhans Strickler Marignano War III 1932-Seite 30
Hans, Junghans and Aberhans Strickler fought in the bloody battle of Marignano under captain Max Röist.

1516 Heini Strickler Sternen VII 1936-Seite 2
At the parting of the first Richterswil's Rechnungsrodel it reads in part "Item 1: Heini Strickler of Sternen in balance has paid 35.5 pounds in this the 1516th year from the birth of Christ on Monday so as to make even the sum necessary for his tax." (Very rough translation!)

1516 Heni Strickler Sternen VII 1936-Seite 105
Heni Strickler is mentioned as running the pub at Sternen. He is called the Eselwirt or Donkey Landlord because his pub is described as at Esel (at the donkey) today called Frohberg (Glad Mountain). (From the Rechenrodel 1516)

1516 Heinrich "Heini" Strickler near Richterswil Peter Zeigler 2000
Heinrich "Heini" Strickler is called the Seckelmeister (Firanzurstand) near Richterswil.

1516 Strickler Family of Sattlebogen Peter Zeigler 2000
In 1516 the Strickler family is listed as living at Sattlebogen. The specific family is not mentioned in record.

1516 Rudi Strickler Richterswil-Strickmatt Frick 176
Rudi Strickler becomes the Ammann of Erlibach to Richterswil and is responsible for 2 Mütt Cores a year annually on the land on the Berg Richterswil from Fridhübsch to Strickmatten and to the Almend (common land)

1518 Weltin Strickler Cneus Tax Indexes of 1518
Weltin Strickler pays tax on the farm called Cneus.

1520 Rudi Strickler Fridhübsch Tax Indexes of 1520
Rudi Strickler is taxed on the estate called Fridhübsch. His tax was on 14 cows and 5 horses and amounted to about 4 pfennings.

1520 Rudi & Hans Strickler Feldmoos & Unter Laubegg III-64
Rudi Strickler of Feldmoos and Hans Strickler of Unter Laubegg are mentioned in a fishing rights conflict for the Hutternesee. The conflict was being handled by the deputy district leader Johannes von Hattstein of the Knight Order.

- 1521 Welti Strickler** Cneaus Strickler, Gustav, 1926
Gustav Strickler gives no further details about this entry. His information simply read "1521" Welti Strickler at Cneaus.
- 1523 Hans Strickler** Feldmoos VII 1936-Seite 106
Hans Strickler is called a Seckelmeister.
- 2 Jul 1523 Rudolf Strickler** Langenegg area VII 1936-Seite 6
In a letter from Langenegg (woodland near the high Rohne) young Hans Hotz and Rudolf Strickler represented a number of landowners of field beyond the Sihl River. Rudolph was probably from the farm called Cneus on the wooded hills above the Sihl River.
- 1524 Hans Strickler** Feldmoos VII 1936-Seite 106
Hans Strickler is called a Seckelmeister.
- 1530 Rudi Strickler** Wirt of Sternen III 1932-Seite 56
The government limits the number of pubs and inns to Wädenswilerberg 2, Wädenswil 1 and Richterswil 1. Special exception is made for Rudi Stricklers house at Sternen am Richters-Wilersberg and is given license to continue operation.
- 1530 Rudolph Strickler** Sternen of the Strick I-49
A note of indebtedness is given to Rudolph Strickler whose house has served as an inn on the Strick at Sternen on Richterswilerberg.
- 1530 Rudi Strickler** Fälmiss-Feldmoos Samstagern Seite-10
In 1530 there is a Rudi Strickler mentioned as living at Vellmishof (Fälmis Farm) one of the two farms at Feldmoos.
- 1530 Hans Strickler** Fridhübsch am Strick I-72
Hans Strickler owns land and is taxed for the estate called Fridhübsch on the Strick.
- 1530 Rudolph Strickler** auf dem Strick Frick ?
Rudolf Strickler of the Strick (b.c1500), also lived at Fridhübsch land described as on Richterswiler Common Land and beside Gilg Tanners called Stythalden
- 19 Dec 1530 Rudi Strickler** Wirt VII. 1936Seite:106
The number of pubs is limited by order to: Wädenswilerberg 2, Wädenswil 1, Richterswil 3 and a special license to Rudi Strickler's house called Sternen on Richterswilerberg.
- 1534 Hans Strickler** Feldmoos VII 1936-Seite 2
Hans Strickler is called a Seckelmeister.
- 1536 Hermann Strickler** Finstersee Tax Indexes of 1536
Hermann Strickler pays tax at Finstersee. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)
- 1536 Weltin Strickler** Cneus Tax Indexes of 1536
Weltin Strickler pays tax on the farm called Cneus. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)
- 1539 Hans Strickler** Feldmoos VII 1936-Seite 2
Hans Strickler is called a Seckelmeister.
- 1539 Rudolf Strickler** Sternen-Gerlisberg Samstagern Seite-12
In 1539 Rudolf Strickler is mentioned as living on Richterswilerberg near Sandrain and Gerlisberg at Sternen. Gerlisberg is near Fridhubsch.
- 1540 Hans Strickler** Feldmoos VII 1936-Seite 2
Hans Strickler is called a Seckelmeister.
- 1541 Hans Strickler** Feldmoos VII 1936-Seite 2

Hans Strickler is called a Seckelmeister.

1546 Strickler Family Fridhübsch Order of Wädenswil
The Stricklers at Fridhübsch are mentioned in the records of the Order of Wädenswil but are not called by name. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

11 May 1547 Rudolf Strickler from Richtreswil area III 1932-Seite 56
Rudolph Strickler is named a delegate in a dispute over the Pfarrfrund of the Kaplanein in the course of the reformation between the advice of Zürich and the Johanniterhaus.

1548 Strickleren am Sattelbogen VII 1936-Seite 48
The newly established community of Strickleren at Sattelbogen paid money in accordance with the Rechenrodel, introduction money as a new municipality. The tax was paid in concurrent years thru 1574 and perhaps later if records thereafter were searched. The community was probably named after the Strickler family that lived in 1516 at Sattelbogen.

1549 Heinrich Strickler Falmis Peter Zeigler 2000
Heini (Heinrich) Strickler lived at Falmis.

1549 Weltin Strickler Cneus Tax Indexes of 1549
Weltin Strickler pays tax on the farm called Cneus. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1549 Hermann Strickler Finstersee Tax Indexes of 1549
Hermann Strickler pays tax at Finstersee. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

11 Sep 1555 Heinrich Strickler Langenegg area VII 1936-Seite 7
Heinrich Strickler and Andreas Theiler asked the land judge of Cham to seal the Holzbriefes for the woodland at Langenegg. Heirnich may be related to the Strickers of Cneus.

1555 Peter Strickler Haslen Samstagern Seite-13
In 1555 Peter Strickler is listed as an inhabitant of the farm “inn Hasslen”. Haslen is a neighboring farm to Fridhübsch.

1555 Kleinjacob Strickler Bibetsee-bei Hutternesee Peter Ziegler 2000
Kleinjacob Strickler lived at the farm called Bibestee on the Lake at Hutten.

1563 Hermann Strickler Finstersee Tax Indexes of 1563
Hermann Strickler pays tax at Finstersee. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1563 Weltin Strickler Cneus Tax Indexes of 1563
Weltin Strickler pays tax on the farm of Cneus. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1564 Weltin Strickler Cneus Tax Indexes of 1564
Weltin Strickler pays tax on the farm of Cneus. He is called the younger. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

1564 Rudolph Strickler Esel I-30
From public records we know that in 1564 Rudolph Strickler resided at Esel. He is called Rudolph Strickler from the Strick.

1564 Peter Strickler Haslenhof I-16
Peter Strickler is mentioned in public records residing at Haslenhof farm where he paid tax.

1564 Rudolph Strickler of near the common lands VII 1936-Seite 22-23
Rudolph Strickler is mentioned in a book recording the people of the common land. The language is hard to translate so here is the original text: Der Titel des ältesten Dokuments der Allmend lautet: “Hie nach volgend die Namen der geschlechtern, so der allmentt in der

gemeind Richtischwyl genoss und theilhaftig sind.“ „Dieser Rodel ist gmacht und beschlossen in bysin hienach volgender personen von den allmendgnossen darzu verordnet, namentlichRudolph Strickler“ Das Allmendrecht von Ihren Vorfahren ererbt haben die Geschlechter: Strickler Auch unter den eingekauften Geschlechtern findet man Strickler.

1568 Jörg Strickler Fridhübsch I-72

Jörg Strickler lives and pays tax on the estate called Fridhübsch.

1568 Rudolph Strickler Schwanden Wädenswil Real Estate Register

Rudolph Strickler from Esel owns the farm called Schwanden and pays tax there. He was a descendant of Hans Strickler who in 1512 owned Schwanden.

29 Jun 1568 Rudolph Strickler community of Richterswil IV 1933-Seite 40

Rudolph Strickler a delegate of the Herschaft Richterswil acts on behalf of the community reading a law before the house of Wädenswil who was to confirm the law.

1568 Hans, Hans, Wernli, Rudolf and Konrad Strickler of Rosenblatt Zeigler 2000

The above named Stricklers resided at the farm called Rosenblatt.

1568 Mathys Strickler am Berg (Richterswil) near commonland Zeigler 2000

Mathys Strickler resided on the mountain of Richterswil near the common land (Sternen).

1568 Rudolf Strickler Esel Zeigler 2000

Rudolf lived at Esel but also owned the farm at Schwanden.

1568 Rudolf Strickler Othensegelhof-Hutten Zeigler 2000

Rudolf Strickler lived near Hutten on the farmed literally called the Other Segel Farm.

1568 Peter, Hans, Grosshans, Heinrich Strickler Egg-Wadenswilerberg

These Stricklers owned land at the Hof der Egg am Wadenswilerberg.

1570 Peter, Kleinhans, Aberhans and Heinrich Strickler Egg-Wadenswilerberg

This is the same family listed in the 1568 record. Grosshans Strickler appears to have died.

1570 Rudolph Strickler Esel Strickler, Gustav, 1926

Rudolph Strickler is described as possessing a stately farm with barns, stables and fields that supplied hay for 17 cows. Rudolph lived at Esel and had moved there from Fridhübsch, the farm he supplied hay for.

1574 Heini Strickler Fridhübsch Tax Indexes 1574

Heini Strickler resided at Fridhübsch where he pays the estate tax.

1583 Heinrich & Margaretha Strickler Fridhübsch Tax Indexes 1583

Heinrich Strickler and wife Margaretha pay land use tax living at Fridhübsch owning 19 cows and 4 horses. (Strickler, Gustav, 1926)

21 May 1593 Rudolph Strickler community of Richterswil IV 1933 Seite 40

Rudolph Strickler is named one of two delegates for the people of Richterswil when dealing with the Royal House of Wadenswil and the abbey at Zurich that the Lenren possesses at that time.

29 May 1593 Rudolph Strickler community of Richterswil IV 1933-Seite 40

Rudolph Strickler is a delegate and is mentioned in a document transacting between the Herrschaft Wädenswil and the abbey of Zürich.

1596 Rudolf Strickler Sattelbogen Samstageren Seite-17

In 1596 and 1606 Rudolf Strickler lived at Sattelbogen.

18 Apr 1598 Conrad Strickler Bruderklausen

Rissler Aug 2002

First records of the Strickler name at Bruderhaus. Conrad Strickler then in 1598 operated the Bruderklausen sort of a safe house for Mennonites. The Bruderklausen no longer stands. Two homes still stand there. The oldest is original to the Bruderklausen and is known as the Unteres Bruderhaus. The Oberes Bruderhaus was razed in the mid 1980's and a new house was built there. It is now called the Nuebruderhaus

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Mingus, Scott L., Sr., *Flames Beyond Gettysburg, The Confederate Expedition to the Susquehanna, June 1863*, Second Edition, New York, 2011.

Strickler, Abigail H., et, al., *Stricklers of Pennsylvania: A History of the Strickler families who emigrated from Switzerland and settled principally in Bucks, Lancaster, York, and Lebanon Counties in Pennsylvania*; The Strickler Reunion Association of Pennsylvania, 1942.

Strickler, Daniel Bursk, *The Memoirs of Lieutenant Governor Lieutenant General Daniel Bursk Strickler*, Private Publication, Lancaster, PA 1972

Newspaper note: two newspapers from York are cited frequently. *The Gazette*, later *The Gazette and Daily*, now *The York Daily Record* is a morning publication; *The York Dispatch* is an evening publication.

ADDENDUM

THE DESCENDANTS OF ALFRED DIETZ STRICKLER

The following genealogy report, produced by Family Tree Maker, 2011 version, includes all known descendants of Alfred Dietz Strickler and Elizabeth S. "Lizzie" Ruby Strickler. Since many of them are living, it is requested that genealogical protocol be followed by not making the information on these persons available outside the family. There are a few missing data; anyone having the missing information is requested to make it available to the author.

While the report, at first glance, may look a bit foreboding, it really isn't. The secret is in the numerals to the left of the names.

The beginning progenitor is #1, and he's the only #1. All of his children are #2's, and all of the children of #2's are #3's, and so on.

However, the second #2 doesn't appear on the report until all of the descendants of the first #2 have been enumerated. And, if the second #2 has multiple #3's, the second #3 doesn't appear until all of the descendants of the first #2 have been listed. Etc., Etc, Etc. Children are listed in order of birth, beginning with the first born.

Marriages are indicated with a plus (+) sign below a name with the spouse's name following the plus sign. The marriage date and location are with data of the person following the plus (+) sign. No notation is made of divorces.

For each person, when known, dates and places of birth and death are provided as well as the location of burial.

For some persons, the exact site of birth, marriage, and death is recorded, e.g., name of hospital or church. The author hopes that anyone having such information for persons for whom it is not recorded will provide it.

Municipalities are listed with the name of the city or township, followed by its county, and followed by its state (Post Office abbreviation) or non-US country.

Key: b= born; d= died; m=married; NMN=No Middle Name

Red numerals indicate a living (in late 2011) descendant.

Outline Descendant Report for Alfred Deitz Strickler

- 1 Alfred Deitz Strickler b: Nov 13, 1843 in his parents' home, Rosevale, Hellam Township, York, PA, d: Sep 21, 1902 in railroad right-of-way at Strickler's/Sprenkle's Mill, Hellam Township, York, PA, Burial: Sep 24, 1902 in Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township, York, PA
- + Elizabeth S. Ruby b: Mar 17, 1845 in her parents' home, Hellam Township, York, PA, m: Dec 26, 1865 in Kreutz Creek Reformed Church, Hellam Township, York, PA, d: Jan 27, 1928 in her home, Hellam Township, York, PA, Burial: Feb 02, 1928 in Strickler Cemetery, Hellam Township, York, PA
-2 Calvin Ruby Strickler b: Nov 08, 1866 in his parents' home, Rosevale, Hellam Township, York, PA, d: Jan 23, 1923 in his home, Columbia, Lancaster, PA, Burial: Jan 26, 1923 in Laurel Hill Memorial Gardens, Columbia, Lancaster, PA
- + Harriet Mary Bursk b: Jul 05, 1867 in Lancaster, Lancaster, PA, m: Jun 07, 1894 in St. John's Lutheran Church, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA, d: Feb 01, 1956 in her home, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA, Burial: Feb 04, 1956 in Laurel Hill Memorial Gardens, Columbia, Lancaster, PA
-3 Alfred Bursk Strickler b: Apr 01, 1895 in his parents' home, Columbia, Lancaster, PA, d: Mar 29, 1955 in Winfield Scott Hotel, Elizabeth, Union, NJ, Burial: Greenwood Cemetery, Elizabeth, Union, NJ
- + Ruth Anthony Wyckoff b: Jun 20, 1904 in Elizabeth, Union, NJ, m: Oct 20, 1928 in Elizabeth, Union, NJ, d: Jan 20, 1985 in Lancaster General Hospital, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA, Burial: Greenwood Cemetery, Elizabeth, Union, NJ
-4 Alfred Bursk Strickler Jr. b: Mar 01, 1930 in Elizabeth, Union, NJ
- + Anne Washington Cooke b: Aug 26, 1931 in Elizabeth, Union, NJ, m: Dec 10, 1954 in St. John's Episcopal Church, Elizabeth, Union, NJ
-5 Anne Thomas Strickler b: Feb 28, 1958 in Chicago, Cook, IL
- + Daniel James Kennedy Jr. m: Mar 16, 1985 in St. James Episcopal Church, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA
-6 James Strickler Kennedy b: Apr 06, 1990
-5 Alfred Bursk Strickler III b: Nov 18, 1960 in Atlanta, Fulton, GA
- + Leslie Hogan Connolly b: Aug 26, 1950 in Richmond, VA, m: Nov 10, 1990 in Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA
-6 Harrison Bursk Strickler b: May 10, 1997 in Richmond, VA
-4 John Anthony Strickler b: Jan 18, 1933 in Elizabeth, Union, NJ, d: Jun 10, 1935 in Elizabeth, Union, NJ, Burial: Evergreen Cemetery, Elizabeth, Union, NJ
-3 Daniel Bursk Strickler b: May 17, 1897 in his parents' home, Columbia, Lancaster, PA, d: Jun 29, 1992 in Country Meadows of Lancaster, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA, Burial: Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA
- + Caroline Grace Bolton b: Jul 22, 1899 in Meadville, Crawford, PA, m: Oct 11, 1924 in Christ Protestant Episcopal Church, Oil City, Venango, PA, d: Oct 09, 1986 in Lancaster General Hospital, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA, Burial: Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA
-4 Nancy Cupper Strickler b: Dec 07, 1926 in Lancaster General Hospital, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA
- + Unknown
-5 Caroline Bolton Strickler b: Oct 29, 1954 in Woking, Surrey, England
- + Donald Alastair McLachlan b: May 18, 1950, m: Sep 06, 1975 in London, England
-6 Viola Kate McLachlan b: Jul 23, 1976 in Selborne, Hampshire, England
-6 Daniel Richard McLachlan b: Feb 24, 1978 in Selborne, Hampshire,

- England
- + Nicola Torrens m: Nov 20, 2009 in Anrim, Northern Ireland
 -⁶ Juliet Emily Grace McLachlan b: Sep 01, 1983 in England
 - + Thomas Evans m: Jun 04, 1011 in Uppingham, Rutland, England
 -⁴ Daniel Bursk Strickler Jr. b: Dec 20, 1932 in Lancaster General Hospital, Lancaster, Lancaster, PA
 - + Ellen NMN Braestrup b: Mar 09, 1935 in Manhattan, New York, NY, m: Jun 21, 1958 in Riverside Presbyterian Church, Bronx, New York, NY
 -⁵ Elizabeth "Lise" Bolton Strickler b: Sep 03, 1960 in Manhattan, New York, NY
 - + Mark Timothy Gallogly b: Jan 18, 1957 in Providence, Providence, RI, m: Sep 12, 1987 in Norfolk Church of Christ Congregational Church, Norfolk, Litchfield, CT
 -⁶ Katharine Strickler Gallogly b: May 27, 1990 in Manhattan, New York, NY
 -⁶ Grace Braestrup Gallogly b: Aug 11, 1992 in Manattan, New York, NY
 -⁶ Helen Frances "Nell" Gallogly b: Mar 27, 1996 in Manhatan, New York, NY
 -⁵ Thomas Saxild Strickler b: Feb 02, 1962 in Manhattan, New York, NY
 -³ Jacob Harold Strickler b: Jun 22, 1898 in his parents' home, Columbia, Lancaster, PA, d: Mar 29, 1956 in Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, Allegheny, PA, Burial: Jefferson Memorial Park, Pittsburgh, Allegheny, PA
 - + Annabelle NMN Watt b: Jan 05, 1901 in Chattanooga, Hamilton, TN, m: Jun 13, 1925 in First Christian Church, Monessen, Westmoreland, PA, d: Mar 17, 1985 in Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital, Hanover, Grafton, NH, Burial: Jefferson Memorial Park, Pittsburgh, Allegheny, PA
 -⁴ James Calvin Strickler b: Jun 16, 1927 in Columbia Hospital, Wilkinsburg, Allegheny, PA
 - + Margaret Jane "Pegge" Wallick b: Mar 28, 1931 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny, PA, m: Jun 20, 1953 in Heinz Chapel, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Allegheny, PA
 -⁵ James Calvin Strickler b: Sep 14, 1956 in The New York Hospital, Manhattan, New York, NY
 - + Elizabeth Anne Warren b: Jun 25, 1962 in West Islip, Suffolk, NY, m: Aug 23, 1986 in Babylon, Suffolk, NY
 -⁶ Zachary Warren Strickler b: Aug 10, 1988 in The New York Hospital, Manhattan. New York, NY
 -⁶ Megan Elizabeth Strickler b: Apr 19, 1990 in New York University Medical Center, Manhattan, New York, NY
 -⁵ Carol Margaret Strickler b: Nov 16, 1958 in The New York Hospital, Manhattan, New York, NY
 - + Boonruang Song-ngam b: Oct 06, 1958 in Surin Province, Thailand, m: Apr 26, 1990 in grooms home, Surin Province, Thailand
 -⁶ Amira Song-ngam b: Sep 10, 1991 in Samitivej Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand
 -⁶ Monica Song-ngam b: Apr 23, 1995 in Samitijev Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand
 -⁵ John Harold Strickler b: Mar 09, 1960 in The New York Hospital, Manhattan, New York, NY, d: Oct 28, 1982 in Norwich, Windsor, VT, Burial: Family property in Vermont
 -⁵ Gail Katharine Strickler b: Apr 10, 1962 in The New York Hospital, Manhattan, New York, NY
 - + Alan Dwight Ball b: May 07, 1963 in Lake Worth, Palm Beach, FL, m: Jul

- 18, 2004 in a civil ceremony at Powder House Park, Somerville,
Middlesex, MA
-6 Marlena Margit Ball b: Feb 09, 2006 in Brigham and Women's Hospital,
Boston, Suffolk, MA
-5 David Charles Strickler b: Jun 13, 1963 in The New York Hospital, Manhattan,
New York, NY
-4 Jay Harold Strickler b: Nov 16, 1931 in Montefiore Hospital, Pittsburgh, Allegheny,
PA
- + Nancy Marie Rein b: Jul 27, 1932 in her parents' home, East Detroit, Wayne, MI, m:
Aug 09, 1955 in Chapel at Sheridan Kaserne, Augsburg, Bavaria, Germany, d: Dec
10, 2006 in Warren, Macomb, MI
-5 Mark Jay Strickler b: Dec 10, 1956 in St. Catherine's Hospital, East Chicago,
Cook, IL
-5 Christopher Watt Strickler b: Mar 24, 1962 in LaGrange Memorial
Hospital, LaGrange, Cook, IL
- + Tracie Linn Workman b: Oct 05, 1977 in Akron, Summit, OH
-6 Celine Annabelle Rein Strickler b: Feb 12, 2002 in St. John's Hospital,
Grosse Pointe Woods, Wayne, MI
-6 Cydnie Marie Strickler b: Jan 30, 2007 in Akron, Summit, OH
-4 Susan Watt Strickler b: Nov 16, 1931 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny, PA, d: Feb 15,
1932 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny, PA, Burial: Southside Cemetery, Carrick,
Allegheny, PA
-3 Katharine Ruby "Kash" Strickler b: Jan 19, 1903 in her parents' home, Columbia,
Lancaster, PA, d: Feb 25, 1994 in Country Meadows of Lancaster, Lancaster,
Lancaster, PA, Burial: Laurel Hill Memorial Gardens, Columbia, Lancaster, PA
-2 Edward Deitz Strickler b: Jan 03, 1869 in his parents' home, Rosevale, Hellam Township,
York, PA, d: Nov 09, 1941 in his home, Hallam, York, PA, Burial: Nov 12, 1941 in Prospect
Hill Cemetery, Manchester Township, York, PA
- + Annie Mary Kate Loucks b: Dec 31, 1871 in Manchester Township, York, PA, m: Sep
26, 1895 in bride's home, Manchester Township, York, PA, d: Oct 25, 1944 in Maxwell
Convalescent Home, York, York, PA, Burial: Oct 28, 1944 in Prospect Hill Cemetery,
Manchester Township, York, PA
-2 Susan Irene Strickler b: Dec 31, 1871 in her parents' home, Rosevale, Hellam Township,
York, PA, d: Jun 10, 1917 in her home, York, York, PA, Burial: Jun 20, 1917 in Prospect
Hill Cemetery, Manchester Township, York, PA
- + Morgan Eugene Gipe b: Apr 17, 1867 in his parents' home, York, York, PA, m: Jun 25, 1896
in bride's home Hellam Township, York, PA, d: Jun 29, 1952 in York Hospital, York, York,
PA, Burial: Jul 02, 1952 in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Manchester Township, York, PA
-3 Elizabeth NMN Gipe b: Oct 08, 1899 in her parents' home, York, York, PA, d: May 21,
1995 in Springettsbury Township, York, PA, Burial: Mt. Rose Cemetery, Spring Garden
Township, York, PA
- + George NMN Rudisill b: Feb 12, 1898 in York, York, PA, m: Jan 24, 1923 in The
Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, York, York, PA, d: Oct 12, 1971 in York,
York, PA, Burial: Mt. Rose Cemetery, Spring Garden Township, York, PA
-4 George NMN Rudisill b: Mar 20, 1925 in West Side Sanitarium, York, York, PA, d:
Jul 03, 1969 in Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, Burial: Mt. Rose Cemetery, Spring
Garden Township, York, PA
-4 James NMN Rudisill b: Jul 18, 1928 in West Side Sanitarium, York, York, PA
-4 Elizabeth NMN "Liza" Rudisill b: Dec 04, 1929 in West Side Sanitarium, York, York,
PA, d: Aug 15, 2008 in her home, Lower Merion Township, Montgomery, PA,

Burial: Aug 29, 2008 in Mt. Rose Cemetery, Spring Garden Township, York, PA
 + Theodore Augustus "Todd" Beadle II b: Jul 07, 1930 in Philadelphia,
 Philadelphia, PA, m: Nov 11, 1952 in St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church,
 York, York, PA
5 Susan Elizabeth Beadle b: Jul 11, 1954 in York, York, PA
 + Rodger Scott Manon b: Jan 14, 1948 in Latrobe, Westmoreland, PA, m: May
 04, 1983 in Allegheny Farm, Onego, Pendleton, WV
6 Ralph Sky Manon b: Aug 07, 1984 in Elkins, Randolph, WV
5 Timothy Michael Beadle b: Mar 25, 1956 in Homestead, Allegheny, PA
5 Michele Ann Beadle b: Jun 18, 1958 in Homestead, Allegheny, PA
 + Marc Herman Ryby b: Apr 18, 1951 in Manhattan, New York, NY, m: Jun
 11, 1983 in a civil ceremony by a Justice of the Peace in Chicago, Cook,
 IL
6 Benjamin Jacob Beadle-Ryby b: Oct 17, 1986 in Loveland, Larimer, CO
6 Alexandra Nicole Beadle-Ryby b: Mar 18, 1989 in Loveland, Larimer, CO
4 Abram NMN Rudisill b: Nov 02, 1933 in West Side Sanitarium, York, York, PA
 + Barbara Ellen Barrick b: Jun 22, 1935 in York, York, PA, m: Jun 12, 1954 in
 York, York, PA
5 Aaron Rudisill b: Jun 17, 1958 in York, York, PA
 + Unknown
6 Hannah Elise Rudisill b: Jun 02, 1989 in Seguin, Guadalupe, TX
5 Abra Rudisill b: Aug 09, 1961 in Brooklyn, Kings, NY
 + Gail Anthony Foster b: Apr 29, 1954 in Greenville, Greene, TN, m: Dec 31,
 1991 in Oakland, Alameda, CA
6 Walker Dylan Foster b: Dec 15, 1995 in Oakland, Alameda, CA
3 Harriet Louise Gipe b: Sep 26, 1903 in her parents' home, York, York, PA, d: Jun 27,
 1983 in Colonial Manor Convalescent Home, Spring Garden Township, York, PA, Burial:
 Jun 30, 1983 in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Manchester Township, York, PA
 + Walker Nevin Brenner b: Oct 12, 1894 in York, York, PA, m: Oct 14, 1926 in The
 Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, York, York, PA, d: Jun 13, 1932 in his
 home, Spring Garden Township, York, PA, Burial: Jun 1932 in Prospect Hill
 Cemetery, Manchester Township, York, PA
4 Mary Susan Brenner b: Jan 15, 1931 in York Hospital, York, York, PA, d: Jan 31,
 1931 in York, York, PA, Burial: Feb 1931 in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Manchester
 Township, York, PA
4 Morgan Gipe Brenner b: Sep 29, 1932 in York Hospital, York, York, PA
 + Elsa Eleanor Ayres b: May 06, 1936 in Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, Allegheny, PA,
 m: Apr 05, 1958 in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, York, York, PA
5 Margaret Susan Brenner b: Jan 05, 1960 in York Hospital, York, York, PA
 + Ronald Bruce Baker b: Aug 15, 1948 in Fairbanks, AK, m: Dec 07, 1981 in a
 civil ceremony by a Justice of the Peace in Winston-Salem, Forsyth, NC
6 Joshua Aaron Baker b: Jul 07, 1982 in Forsyth Medical Center, Winston-
 Salem, Forsyth, NC
6 Dylan O'Neill Baker b: Apr 20, 1990 in Danbury Hospital, Danbury, Fairfield,
 CT
6 Shannon Ayres Baker b: Apr 20, 1990 in Danbury Hospital, Danbury,
 Fairfield, CT
5 David Morgan Brenner b: Jan 31, 1963 in York Hospital, York, York, PA
 + Lorena Isabel Arnold b: Mar 03, 1976 in Bochum, North Rhine, Westphalia,

Germany, m: Jun 19, 2010 in Self Realization Fellowship Temple, Encinitas, San Diego, CA

.....5 Kathryn Ayres Brenner b: Oct 20, 1968 in York Hospital, York, York, PA

..... + Gary Donald Byrne b: Jun 10, 1966 in Cincinnati, Hamilton, OH, m: Oct 22, 1994 in Kenai Princess Lodge, Cooper Landing, AK

.....6 Eleanor Ayres Byrne b: Jan 17, 2003 in Providence Kodiak Island Medical Center, Kodiak, AK

.....6 Floyd Silas Byrne b: Jun 21, 2005 in Providence Kodiak Island Medical Center, Kodiak, AK

.....3 Clara May Gipe b: May 03, 1909 in her parents' home, York, York, PA, d: Jun 22, 1999 in National Health Care Center, Hudson, Pasco, FL, Burial: Prospect Hill Cemetery, Manchester Township, York, PA

..... + William Townsend Perks II b: Apr 05, 1905 in Camden, Camden, NJ, m: Jun 01, 1935 in The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, York, York, PA, d: Jul 19, 1992 in Plantation General Hospital, Plantation, Broward, FL, Burial: Prospect Hill Cemetery, Manchester Township, York, PA

.....4 William Townsend Perks III b: Jul 09, 1941 in Cooper University Hospital, Camden, Camden, NJ

..... + Joanne Marie Lancaster b: Jun 19, 1943 in Northville, Kent, MI, m: Apr 07, 1964 in Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin, Pinellas, FL

.....5 Stephanie Marie Perks b: Dec 20, 1966 in Doctor's Hospital, Coral Gables, Dade, FL

..... + David Ira Colodney b: Feb 11, 1964 in Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, m: May 15, 1993 in New Port Richey, Pasco, FL

.....6 Adam Henry Colodney b: Aug 25, 1998 in Plantation, Broward, FL

.....6 Jakob Nicholas Colodney b: Oct 17, 2000 in Plantation, Broward, FL

.....5 William Townsend Perks IV b: Feb 25, 1971 in North Miami Hospital, North Miami, Dade, FL

..... + Lori Lee Counts b: May 28, 1974 in Fairfax Hospital, Falls Church, Fairfax, VA, m: Apr 28, 2001 in Vine Grove, Hardin, KY

.....6 William Townsend Perks V b: Apr 24, 2002 in Hardin Memorial Hospital, Elizabethtown, Hardin, KY

.....6 Grant Alexander Perks b: Nov 17, 2004 in Clark Memorial Hospital, Jeffersonville, Clark, IN

.....6 Andrew Luke Perks b: Feb 22, 2009 in his parents' home, Radcliff, Hardin, KY

..... + Peggy Lee Tatum b: Dec 27, 1950 in Houston, Harris, TX, m: Mar 29, 1979 in St. Luke's Methodist Church, Houston, Harris, TX

.....5 Sandra Patricia Perks b: Sep 20, 1981 in Houston, Harris, TX

..... + Jeremiah Paul Skinner b: Jun 16, 1985 in Leander, Williamson, TX, m: Nov 08, 2009 in Austin, Travis, TX

AUTHOR'S NOTE

In the Spring of 1951 as a student at Duke University, I was required, as were all freshmen, to write a magnus opus term paper which was graded by professors from both the English and History Departments. I chose the subject of “John of Leiden and the Anabaptists”—why, I have absolutely no idea, for at the age of 17½, I had no knowledge of nor interest in my heritage. All I remember about the subject is that John was an Anabaptist leader from the Dutch town of Leiden.

How ironic that 60 years later I would write a family history book about my Anabaptist ancestors.

EPILOGUE



The above photograph, location unknown, a brain-storm of the author, was fulfilled by Jay Strickler from a photograph found by Elsa Brenner at the bottom of a piece of note paper on her desk. Jay enhanced the photograph, “planted” the flag pole, placed “Strickler” above the mountain, and added the frame. A job well done!

May it be an appropriate close to this book as a reminder of Our Swiss Strickler Heritage.

