

Fall 2010

Historical Journal



LITITZ HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 65 145 E. Main Street, Lititz, PA 17543

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www.lititzhistoricalfoundation.com

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Tours, & Gift Shop Hours:

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Monday-Saturday
10am-4pm
through October 2nd, 2010

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Early Schools of Warwick and Warwick Township Part 2

Martha Xakellis

Listing teaching as her occupation, Emma L. Habecker lives in Lititz with her parents. She is 20 and the daughter of Isaac and Rebecca Habecker.

Fairview school is to be taught by Sallie Bruckhart, age 35, daughter of Martha Bruckhart. She lives in the Village of Warwick with her mother, Martha, and her sister Harriet. Both Sallie and Harriet are teachers.

Isaac K. Huber is found in Manheim Borough. He is the son-in-law of Jacob and Mariah Stern and husband of Mary. Isaac is 20 and apparently discovered that he wanted further education. He is listed as a student. In an 1886 edition of a Lititz paper the report is made of the erection of a new Warwick school that will be ready for opening in the Spring with Isaac K. Huber as the teacher.

Searching the early Lititz Record and Lititz Express/Express Weekly papers articles can be found about education in Lititz, Warwick, and the surrounding Warwick Township as well as neighboring townships. Teacher examinations, assignment of teachers to schools, monthly student attendance records, and special programs held by the school are among some of the things reported. Following the assignments of teachers to the different schools, you will note that the names are not always at the same school or even in the same township. For several years H.N. Biemesderfer and Miss Lou. S. Yetter were assigned teaching positions with the Manheim Township schools.

What happened to all these small schools? There are three Atlases of early maps, 1864, 1875, and 1899 that proved to be very useful. Homes, churches, mills, cemeteries/graveyards and schoolhouses are marked as such, but schools are not labeled with a name, just a small drawing of a school house. Churches looked almost the same, but had a steeple.

The original school in Rothsville was known as the "Rabbit Hill School House". There are copies of student records from the school year 1833/1834. The teacher was paid by the parents at a set amount per day plus supplies. At the top of the attendance sheet is the notation the "School commenced on the 7 day of October 1833 at Bentzes school house by Philip Kraatz." Each day is listed and a number of 1/2, 1, 2, or 3 was written in for each day. A total was written at the end of the line. Small notes beside children's names list paper, ink, and in two instances, a primer (6 1/2 cents), and a German ABC book (12 1/2 cents).



Pictured above is the Lexington school at 811 Furnace Hills Pike in the process of being moved to make way for the new road.

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It's Approaching that Special Time of Year!

Join us at the Moravian Church Square on Thursday, December 16th at 7 p.m. for our annual Carol Sing. Share in the holiday spirit as you and your friends, family, and neighbors help to spread the joyous music which will be lead by the Moravian Trombone Choir. Hymnals will be handed out at no charge. Afterwards, please join us in Fellowship Hall for light refreshments. We hope to see you there!



Third Moravian Church Cemetery Lantern Tour - Sunday, October 3, 2010

Robert Sandercox - Lititz Moravian Archives Committee Member

Beginning at 7:30 p.m. guides will meet groups of 25 to take the walking tour to the cemetery where they will meet 11 early Moravians portrayed by various members of the Church. (Different grave sites are chosen each year). Among those selected this year are: Christian Fredrick Steinman, ancestor of Lancaster County's Steinman newspaper family; Margaretha Elizabeth Grube, wife of the church organist and director of the orchestra; John Christian Gutyahr, forebearer of Charles Goodyear; and Maria Chtistina Schmidt, who was captured by the Indians at the age of 9 in 1755.

48 EAST MAIN STREET – BUILDING WITH A HISTORY

Charlene Van Brookhoven

The property that now houses Matthew 25 Thrift Shop, 48 East Main Street, dates back to 1782. The original structure was a limestone, one-story cottage and purchased by Matthias Gottfried Tshudy in 1798 for his new wife Catherine Blickensderfer. Being members of the Moravian community, Matthius and Catherine were joined together by the “lot” system of the church. The names of all eligible young women of Lititz were prayerfully considered by the elders of the church and chosen for a worthy bachelor to be united in matrimony. This union must have been a “perfect match” as the Tshudy’s celebrated their Golden Anniversary in 1848.

Matthias Tshudy was born in 1771 and became an orphan at the age of 4. He was educated in the Brethren’s House where he learned the trade of weaving. He became proficient at weaving baskets made of oak splints as well as chip-plaited hats that were in demand with the colonists up and down the east coast. The durability of oak hats for ladies and gentlemen was far more superior to any other materials of the day. The men’s hats were in the style of what we know today as “Amish hats”. Ladies wore woven sunbonnets which were tied with fancy ribbons under the chin.

The little limestone cottage occupied by Tshudy and his wife became a hub of activity with his weaving business. In 1805 he built a two-story brick house on the east side of 48 E. Main Street. There the Tshudy’s raised five daughters and one son. The Tshudy’s endured sadness in their stone cottage as a daughter was born and died on the same day in 1799. Another daughter, Maria Barbara, died in 1806 at the age of six years.

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Early Schools of Warwick and Warwick Township Con't:

On a separate sheet of paper was written a statement to the County of Lancaster from Philip Kraatz, Sr. "For the Tuition of the Poor children." This is a billing for those children whose parents could not afford to pay for their time in school. The teacher received 2½ cents per day per child plus reimbursement of stationary which consisted of a spelling book and a Testament.

The rest of this piece of paper is missing. It appears that it was a duplicate copy, using both sides for different letters. Even though it is not complete, a person can get a good idea of what Philip Kraatz received for the education of the poor. The total of 619 hours multiplied by 2 ½ cents per hour came to a total of \$15.20, and the visible part of the Stationary list comes to 59 ½ cents. The location of this school was taken from the "Rothsville Bicentennial 1790 – 1990". It was located somewhere north of Main Street, south of a small memorial graveyard of the Oberholtzer family. In this school the teacher was paid by the students' families.

1716 Old Rothsville Road is where a one-room brick school house was located. It was in operation until 1882 when it was replaced by the "Lower Rothsville" school at 1726 Old Rothsville Road. It housed a cigar factory at one time but is now a private residence. The second story was added and is not original.

1726 Old Rothsville Road is now a private residence. The school board sold the property at public sale 1911.

1240 East Newport Road From the "Rothsville Bicentennial 1790-1990" : When Ralph Hess started his garage on the site of the burnt "Upper Rothsville" school, he had an old trolley car moved to the location as temporary living quarters. This is now known as Jim's Garage and is still being used as a repair garage.

137 Church Road was known as Pleasant View School and opened about 1882. It was a wood frame school and was in use until 1910. It was sold in 1911 and since has been a private residence.

There was a Rothsville Central School at 15 Church Street built about 1895. At the end of 1909 it was torn down to make way for the new school. The new school would have a Primary Room, a Secondary Room, and a three year High School. The high school closed in the late 1950's and it became an elementary school. The initial six grades were reduced to three and the school finally closed for good in 1977.

Look-Out School was in Pine Hill and was sold at a public auction along with the Union School in Lexington to Amos Metzler. It was moved to the Lexington location (225 East Lexington Road) and combined with that building. It is now a private home that looks nothing at all like a school.

Brunnerville was a two room school and was sold at public sale in 1936 when the new four class-room John Beck School was ready for students. It is now a private home.



Pleasant View School located at 137 Church Road, Rothsville

Buch's school house is out West Orange Street (525) at the corner of Lime Rock Road. The deed on this property designated that when it was no longer needed as a school, the land would revert to the Buch Family from whom it was purchased.

Warwick school house in 1879 was a log building and was known as Huber's school. The land on which the school is located originally belonged to John Huber. About the time that the free school system was accepted in Warwick Township (1843), it was torn down and replaced by a brick and frame building. It is now a private home at 612 North Cedar Street.

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Early Schools of Warwick and Warwick Township Con't:

Warwick #1 and Warwick #2 were added in 1885 and 1891 on Market Street in the village of Warwick.

811 Furnace Hill Pike is the site of another Lexington school house. It became a private residence sometime in the 1930's, and between 1943 and 1948 had to be moved East from its location to allow Rt. 501 to be lowered and relocated so that the increased traffic flow would go around the small village of Lexington. The old road is known as Loop Road.

At the intersection of Landis Valley Road and Owl Hill Road is a school house that is now a private residence. It was known as Kissel Hill School as long as I can remember. My mother went to school there, and my older cousin (by 3 years) also went there.

There are more schools to be learned about and written about. Millport Union Church had a Sunday School building connected with it. It was known as the Union School, but whether it was a public or private school hasn't been determined yet.

Rome, Fairview, Owl Hill School (Owl Hill Learning Center on Owl Road and Brevity Lane), Lexington (a Union Sunday School in conjunction with a Union church that was located at Union House Road and Lexington Road), Martin's, Lincoln School (or was this Owl Hill school?), Millway and Sunnyside are all names of schools found in different records. On an early map there is a school marked as being on the point between Pierson Road and Owl Hill Road at the top of Kissel Hill Road. Was this Martin's school? Also marked is a school on West Woods Drive just past Hess Lane. Could this have been New Haven school? Is there someone out there who remembers? Did a grandmother, grandfather, aunt, uncle, or even mother or father mention something about a school they went to when they were kids?

Special Thanks to Martha Xakellis for this interesting and informative 2-part article!

Winter Lecture Series and Annual Meeting Dates for 2011

We hope to see you at our annual meeting scheduled for Sunday November 14th. Starting at 2pm, and located once again at Linden Hall's Steinman Arts Center, a wonderful afternoon of history is planned. After our meeting, we are excited to have as our guest speaker Lancaster Newspaper columnist Jack Brubaker. Brubaker serves as "The Scribbler", and will relay many stories regarding quirky and off-beat subjects involving Lancaster County. This program promises to be very informative, and we hope to see you there! The program starts at 2pm. Please contact the Foundation with any questions.

Starting in January 2011, our regular Winter series lectures will once again continue. On Sunday January 16th, we are very proud to welcome back nationally known ghost hunter Rick Fisher, who will present a program on UFO's and strange creatures of the Keystone State. We hosted Fisher two years ago for a lecture on local ghost hunting, and it was the largest crowd we have ever had for our lecture series. This program in January will no doubt be also well-attended, so be sure to get there early to get a good seat!

We also have lectures scheduled for February 20th and March 20th with speakers to be announced. Please check our website, call the Foundation, or check upcoming issues of the Lititz Record Express for information.

All programs are free and open to the public, and start at 2pm. These programs will take place on a Sunday afternoon at Linden Hall's Steinman Arts Center, which is located next to Mary Dixon Chapel in Lititz.

48 EAST MAIN STREET – BUILDING WITH A HISTORY CON'T:



In 1852 Matthias Tshudy died and left his two properties to his wife Catherine. After Catherine's death in 1865, the brick home at 54 E. Main (now occupied by Roma Pizza) served as a private home for several local families including some of the Tshudy's children.

In 1897 the original stone cottage was removed and a two-story brick building was constructed on the limestone foundation. Israel H. Doster opened a department store on the first floor offering notions, household goods, and dry goods. I.H. Doster, General Merchandise, was the name of this business. The second floor was occupied by the Y.M.C.A., a Christian gathering place for young gentlemen. The third floor attic was added shortly after 1900. A small office of The American Union Telephone Company was located on the east side of the building.

ond floor was occupied by the Y.M.C.A., a Christian gathering place for young gentlemen. The third floor attic was added shortly after 1900. A small office of The American Union Telephone Company was located on the east side of the building.

I. H. Doster and his wife Amelia purchased the brick home at 54 E. Main Street, once the family dwelling of Matthias Tshudy. There the Dosters raised four children – Vera, Joseph, Paul and Elmer.

I.H. Doster died in 1950 and willed the property to his wife Amelia (Millie) who died in 1956. She left the two properties to her son Paul and his wife Mary. Paul and Mary Doster continued operation of Doster's Store until 1975 when the property was sold to Harold Hartenstein. Mr. Hartenstein's wife opened the Trudi K Shop which specialized in "wearing apparel and shoes".

In 1984 Hartenstein sold 48 E. Main Street to William Bell, Sr., founder and owner of Lititz Office Products, a wholesale/retail office supply business. After Mr. Bell's death in 1995, the business and property were given to his wife Shirley and their son William, Jr. In 2000 Shirley and William, Jr. sold the property to Lititz Improvement, a group of Lititz investors. Lititz Improvement is the current owner and landlord to Matthew 25 Thrift Shop.

Pictured above is a rare photograph of the limestone cottage purchased by Matthias Tshudy in 1798. It was built at 48 East Main Street. The alley to the right of the structure still exists. Today it runs South to the Lititz Elementary School. The photo was taken in the 1870's.

To the right is a photograph of the department store owned by I.H. Doster which was constructed on the site of the limestone cottage. This was built by Doster in 1897. Note the dirt alley still remains to the right of the building. The home to the left was built by Matthias Tshudy in 1805 for his family. This photo was taken in the early 1900's.



PICTURE QUIZ



Above is The Kissel Hill Honor Roll, which listed the names of the brave soldiers from Kissel Hill who were serving overseas in World War 2. Where in Kissel Hill was this Honor Roll located?

Answer to last issue's Picture Quiz: This was a picture of Elmer Bobst, taken at the ground breaking ceremony of the future Warner Lambert Plant in Lititz. The photo was taken on August 4th, 1955.



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