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OUR NAME'S THE GAME

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SOUTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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2026 Next Upcoming Programs

Sunday, November 1, 2026, 2:30 p.m. - The Old Order River Brethren – Still on the Quest for Piety and Obedience! presented by John S. Dietz.

Meet the Old Order River Brethren

John S. Dietz, Old Order River Brethren member, educator and historian, will present a program about the history, beliefs and practices of his denomination, entitled "**The Old Order River Brethren – Still on the Quest for Piety and Obedience!**" Once nicknamed "Yorkers" owing to their mid-nineteenth-century origin and early concentration in York County, these Brethren began as a conservative movement among the River Brethren (now Brethren in Christ). Usually counted among the Plain People of Pennsylvania, the Old Order River Brethren continue the historic practices of plain dress, baptism by immersion, congregational singing without instruments, and worshiping in homes and barns along with schools and meetinghouses.

Dietz is a member of the Old Order River Brethren, Lancaster District South, and he works to preserve the history of his church. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Millersville and Shippensburg Universities, respectively. He has been both a fulltime and substitute teacher in private and public schools. He currently teaches parttime at Sonlight River Brethren School in Lancaster County. In August 2024, he retired from Philhaven (now Wellspan) where he worked in the behavioral health field for nearly 22 years.

He married Janet Funk in 1978, and they are the parents of seven adult children and grandparents of twenty-five grandchildren. On the side, he engages in organic farming, and his family has a farm stand just off the Lincoln Highway between Hallam and Wrightsville at 141 Stricklers Lane.

Sunday, January 3, 2027, 2:30 p.m. Give Me Liberty or Give Me Lunch!: A Culinary Exploration of the Revolutionary War Period, presented by Lydia Stayer.

The culinary scene during the Revolutionary War was a time of blending European traditions, native agricultural staples, and improvisation due to supply shortages. "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Lunch!" will provide attendees with the opportunity to explore the ingredients, cooking preparations, as well as dishes and beverages that were common during this period in history. Following the presentation, savory dishes and sweet treats will be available for sampling.

Lydia Stayer is a special education teacher in York County and holds teaching certifications in Elementary Education, Special Education, and Family and Consumer Science Education. When she is not fulfilling her teaching duties, she enjoys expanding her culinary knowledge through reading cookbooks and trying her hand at new recipes.

A Brief Researcher's Guide to using Henry James Young's York County, Pennsylvania in the American Revolution, A Source Book

by SCPGS President Richard K. Konkel, Esquire

Among the records at the York County History Center scanned by familysearch.org in late 2024 are the two series of nine volumes in total entitled *York County, Pennsylvania in the American Revolution, A Source Book* compiled by Henry James Young. The first series, called the Black Series was compiled between 1935 and 1937 and is five volumes. A second series, called the Red Series was compiled between 1939 and 1958. Both series have continuous pagination and every name indexes in the final volumes of their respective series. The two series are currently not found together on the familysearch.org website, which for the sake of researchers should be corrected. The Black Series is catalogued with Henry James Young as author, under the subject of York County Military records – Revolution, 1775-1783, and the Red Series is catalogued with the Historical Society of York County (Pennsylvania) as author, under the subject of York County Military history – Sources – Revolution 1775-1783.

Until recently I had not used these records very extensively in my own research. I personally knew and visited with Henry James Young during approximately the last six years of his life, starting when I was a freshman at Dickinson College in 1989. We specifically talked about these records and why Henry Young compiled them. His intention was to collect everything that he could find about York County's involvement in the American Revolution. At the time, the Historical Society of York County would have had frequent requests from researchers for information about Revolutionary War service of ancestors, particularly from individuals seeking to obtain membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). Coupled with that, Henry Young had a deep interest in the history of the Revolutionary War period. His Doctoral Dissertation at the Johns Hopkins University was about the treatment of the Loyalists in Pennsylvania during the American Revolution. Henry Young's Preface to the Black Series, found at the beginning of volume 5 of the Black Series provides a lot of useful information about the inception and creation of the books.

Had I known a few years ago, when I began transcribing these records, what an enormous task was before me, or how difficult and complicated it would become, it is doubtful whether I would have undertaken it.
I fear that my arrangement of the records is not the most convenient for the researcher, nor is it altogether consistent; for my understanding of the records (and consequently my plan) only developed while the work, including the typing and indexing, was being done.

The papers copied or abstracted here should be used only with the most careful analysis. Serious errors may be made by forming hasty conclusions concerning the information that is or is not given in the collection of fragments.
In collection, copying and indexing these records, I have been assisted by Mrs. A. B. Starner, the late Clay Lewis, Mr. Donald V. Gnau and Mr. Albert J. Byrnes. Special acknowledgment is due the Archives Division of the Pennsylvania State Library, The Veterans Administration, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Gazette Publishing Company, for access to their collections. It is a pleasure to record also the contribution of Miss Sarah E. Smyser of financial and other assistance so that the Historical Society of York County might acquire these records.
The task is yet far from complete; there are records of York County's participation in the Revolution to fill many more volumes, and these will slowly be produced as new series.
The Historical Society of York County
Henry James Young
May 13, 1937

During this Semiquincentennial (250th) anniversary year of our American republic, it is altogether fitting and appropriate for us to re-examine the records of our York County ancestors and their participation in history of the founding of the nation.

Black Series Volume I 1935

Letter Book of the County Commissioners 1780-1781 pages 1-8
Requisitions of Recruits pages 9-189
- Forms pages 9-10
- Codorus Township pages 10-11, 58-62
- Dover Township pages 11-21
- Manchester Township pages 21-30
- Windsor Township pages 31-40
- Hellam Township pages 40-47
- Hopewell Township pages 47-52
- Shrewsbury Township pages 53-58
- Reading Township pages 68-69
- Berwick Township pages 69-79
- Straban Township pages 79-82
- Cumberland Township pages 82-92, 166
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- Chanceford Township pages 100-107
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- Heidelberg Township pages 114-121, 128
- Manheim Township pages 121-133
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- Monaghan Township pages 143-150
- Huntington Township pages 150-155
- Mount Pleasant Township pages 155-158
- Mountjoy Township pages 158-161
- Hamiltonban Township pages 161-166
- Menallen Township pages 166-175
- Germany Township pages 175-182
- Tyrone Township pages 182-186
- York Town pages 186-189

Black Series Volume II 1935

Nonjurors, 1781 and updated pages 190-198
Non-Associators, 1777 pages 199-233
Substitute and Muster Fines pages 234-256
Oaths of Allegiance page 257
Abstracts of Administration Papers pages 258-261
Rough Docket of the County Commissioners pages 262-266
Obits pages 267-292
Letters and Miscellaneous Papers pages 293-340
Quarter Sessions Dockets pages 341-348

Black Series Volume III 1936

Bounty Lands pages 349-362
Pensions and Similar Papers pages 363-444

Black Series Volume IV 1936

Return of Associators and Militia pages 445-625
- Payroll of a party page 445-456
- Captain George Eichelberger's company pages 454-458
- Captain William Bailey's company pages 458-460
- Captain Charles Luken's company pages 460-461
- Captain James Thompson's company page 462
- Captain Michel Quickel's company page 463
- Captain Christian Kauffman's company pages 464-465
- Captain James Chamberlain's company pages 465-466
- Captain Samuel Farra's company pages 466-467
- Captain William Mitchell's company pages 467-468
- Captain Samuel Nelson's company pages 468-469
- Colonel William Rankin's battalion pages 469-480, 511-534 Militia
- Captain William Aston's company pages 470-473, 511-515
- Captain John Rankin's company pages 473-477, 515-518
- Captain John Mansperger's company pages 477-480, 526-529
- Colonel James Thompson's battalion pages 480-511
- Captain William Dodd's company pages 480-484
- Captain Daniel Williams' company pages 484-487
- Captain John Schaeffer's company pages 487-490
- Captain Daniel May's company pages 490-493
- Captain James Parkinson's company pages 494-500
- Captain Benjamin Koebel's company pages 500-503
- Captain Francis Benner's company pages 503-507
- Captain John Oblenis' company pages 507-511
- Captain Simon Copenhaffer Sr's company pages 518-520, 558-560, 561-563
- Captain Jacob Heyer's company pages 520-523
- Captain Emanuel Herman's company pages 523-526
- Captain Yost Harbaugh's company pages 529-531, 607-609
- Captain William Walls' company pages 531-533
- Captain Joseph Reed's company pages 534-536
- Captain James Maffet's company pages 536-539
- Lieutenant John Travis' return pages 539-544, 610-615

Lieutenant Isaac McKissick's return pages 544-546, 610-615
Captain Christopher Lauman's company pages 547-549, 577-579
Captain John Laird's company pages 549-552
Captain John Rippey's company pages 553-554
Captain Thomas McNary's company pages 555-557
Colonel David Jameson's battalion pages 557-558, 568-587
Captain Jacob Beaver's company pages 564-571
Captain Godfrey Frey's company pages 572-574
Captain Peter Ford's company pages 574-576, 587-589
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Captain Thomas White's company pages 592-594
Captain John Scherer's company pages 594-596
Captain Peter Zollinger's company pages 597-598
Captain John Meyer's company pages 599-600
Captain George Geiselman's company pages 601-602
Captain Michael Ege's company pages 603-604
Captain Rudolph Spangler's company pages 605-606
Captain Gideon Bausley's company pages 615-616
Captain John Miller's company pages 616-618
Captain Jacob Ament's company pages 618-620
Captain George Hoover's company pages 621-623
Captain Aquilla Wiley's company pages 623-625

Black Series Volume V 1937
Index of Personal and Geographical Names (Black Series) pages 626-1082

Red Series Volume I 1939
Muster Rolls from original manuscripts at the
Archives Division, Pennsylvania State Library pages 1-92
Veterans Administration Pension Records pages 93-169
General Accounting Office Records pages 170-183
Adjutant General's Office Records pages 183-184
Department of the Interior General Land Office pages 185-187

Red Series Volume II 1940
Sub-lieutenant's book 1781-1783 pages 188-239
Return of absentees 1780-1783 pages 240-267
Pay rolls 1781-1782 pages 332-336
Loyalist Papers pages 337-438

Red Series Volume III 1958
Account of Archibald. McClean Esqr. Agt.
The State of Pennsylvania for enlistments
at York-Town (Pennsylvania State Archives) pages 439-448
Accounts of John McCandless, for the
years 77, 78 & 1779 and 1786
(Pennsylvania State Archives) pages 449-458

Taxation of Conscientious Objectors	page 459
Obits from Gettysburg Sentinel	page 460
American Loyalists transcripts from New York Public Library	pages 461-462
Selections from the Correspondence of the Executive of New Jersey	pages 463-473
York County Militia 1777-1780 3rd Battalion, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th companies (classes 1, 2, 3, and 4 only)	pages 474-482
Constables Returns	pages 483-492
Enlistments	pages 493-500
Some Federal Pension Abstracts	page 501-542
Notarial Docket of John Morris, Justice of the Peace, Office of the Register of Wills, York Co.	pages 543-548
Anna Barbara Hoover, widow of John Michael Hoover Revolutionary War bounty land warrant	page 549
Laws of Pennsylvania 1855 Pension for Christina Long, widow of a soldier of the Revolution	page 549
Original Pension certificate for Frederick Schilker, Historical Society of York County	page 549
1840 Federal census of pensioners from the Revolutionary War	pages 550-556
York and Adams Pensioners before 1836	pages 557-565
Orphans' Court Petitions	pages 566-567
Pensions for Widows	pages 568-570
Miscellaneous Records	pages 571-604

Red Series Volume IV 1958
Index of Personal and Geographical Names (Red Series) pages 1-194

Continued list of Upcoming Programs through June 2027:

Sunday, February 7, 2027, 2:30 p.m. - "We Find No Freedom … in Anything by Which Men's Lives are Destroyed or Hurt": Pennsylvania Mennonites and the American Revolution, presented by Steve Nolt.

The American Revolution brought ideas and question about liberty to the fore, and many people made sacrifices for what they believed to be the cause of freedom. But not everyone understood liberty and freedom in the same way. Mennonites were among those who appreciated the freedom they had found in Pennsylvania but were unwilling to sacrifice what they believed was Christ's call to live peaceably with all. Their convictions placed them in a difficult and unpopular position during the Revolution. They sought to explain their beliefs in letters and petitions but ended up losing many of their political rights when they would neither fight nor swear loyalty to the new state government after 1776. Their experience is an example of the tension between majority rule and minority rights, and of competing notions of loyalty, liberty, and religious conviction. This presentation will focus on Mennonites, but the experience of other Pennsylvania peace churches, from Quakers and Moravians to Brethren and Schwenkfelders, will necessarily surface, as well.

Steve Nolt is the Director of the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown College. He is the author of numerous books and articles on Mennonite, Amish, and broader Pennsylvania German history

and contemporary life. Local and national media frequently call upon him to provide expert insight into the history, life and practices of the Amish.

Sunday, March 7, 2027, 2:30 p.m. - Revolutionary Roots – our annual show-and-tell meeting

This meeting will be our annual opportunity to share information about ancestors, research or sources and to ask questions for the group to consider. In keeping with the 250th anniversary of our country's founding, we would like you to focus on the American Revolution. Who is your favorite Revolutionary War ancestor? What unique source of information about that period have you found? Where did your family live in the late eighteenth century and why? While the focus of this meeting will be the Revolutionary period, other topics for consideration are welcome.

Sunday, April 4, 2027, 2:30 p.m. - Tour of the Hanover Area Historical Society's Hormel History and Research Center

In the fall of 2024, the Hanover Area Historical Society opened the Hormel History and Research Center at the Guthrie Library in Hanover, PA. The Center includes the Society's Yelland Research Library and Archives and the collections of Guthrie's Pennsylvania Reading Room. It holds a wealth of historical and genealogical information on families, places and events in Hanover and the surrounding areas in York and Adams Counties. You will hear from Terri Altland, Executive Director of the Historical Society, as well as from a knowledgeable volunteer will provide a survey of the available resources. An optional tour of the Historical Society's Warehime-Myers Mansion and museum may be offered. We will meet at the Guthrie Library at 2:30 p.m. for this program. More details to come.

Sunday, May 2, 2027, 2:30 p.m. - Tour of Historic Guinston Presbyterian Church

Founded in 1754, Guinston Presbyterian Church near Airville, PA is among the oldest religious congregations in York County. Its historic stone meeting house—whose construction was completed in 1774--still stands, surrounded by its cemetery. Join one of the church's historians in an exploration of the old church building and the grounds. The meeting time is subject to change; more details to come.

The 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence Exhibition

Reviewed by Becky Anstine

On July 4, 2026, the York History Center opened a special exhibition to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. For our September meeting, SCPGS had a guided tour of the exhibition in the Dale Brougher Gallery by Nicole Smith, Vice President of Interpretation. The exhibit is the first to be held in that gallery. The exhibit includes artifacts from past anniversary celebrations, such as the bicentennial celebration of 1976. Pulling from the documents and artifacts in the History Center's collections – the focus on life in York during the nine months that the Continental Congress met in York. The items on display include historic flags, the original Colonial Courthouse door and a chair from the courthouse, John Hay's waistcoat, weapons and a powder horn, and early maps. One interactive activity involves putting all the cities that served as capitals of the country during that time in chronological order. Nicole talked about the stories behind the exhibit. The exhibit and future activities will continue until 2028. (This meeting was not recorded).

The Mysterious Revolutionary War Service of John Gundrum

by Jonathan R. Stayer, Vice President

This year's 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence that established the United States has renewed the interest of many American families in their Revolutionary War forebears. Among my most intriguing ancestors of that period was **John Gundrum** (died 1834) of Annville (now North Annville) Township, Lebanon County. Although I have been unable to find documentation of his service in the Continental Army, the Revolutionary War pension application of Jacob Hefflebower (S5501) at the National Archives includes affidavits that placed **Gundrum** at the battle of Princeton. (I would like to thank former SCPGS board member David Hively for bringing this file to my attention many years ago.) The affidavits are transcribed in part hereunder in chronological order:

December 15, 1832

I do hereby Certify that I was at the house of **John Gundrum** on the fifteenth day of December AD 1832 and Jacob Heflebower was there at the same time both revolutionary soldiers, and the said **Gundrum** says that he was at the Battle of Princton in the state of New Jersey and further says that he helped to remove the wounded after the battle and that he Recollects of removing a man that was wounded in forehead the ball having struck the plate of his Cap and from what information he got from said Heflebower he Believes that he is the same person that was wounded in his forehead.
Witness my hand Adm Weise
The said **John Gundrum** resides
in anvill [sic] Township Lebanon County Pa.

August 21, 1833

State of Pennsylvania Dauphin County pa
On this twenty first day of August A.D. 1833, personally appeared in open Court viz the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas of Dauphin County . . . Jacob Heffelbower, resident in Derry Township in this County, aged about seventy seven years . . . on oath made the following declaration . . . He was with his Company, in the right wing of the army, in that battle [Princeton], where he received a severe wound in his forehead, from a bullet. At the time of receiving the wound, Deponent had upon him his Grenadiers Cap, in the front of which was a brass plate, upon this the bullet struck & he escaped with his life. Deponent fell to the Ground insensibly & after the battle was carried from the field by **John Gundrum**, now living in Lebanon County in this State, whose statement is certified by Squire Wise of Lebanon County, & is hereto attached – **Gundrum** is now blind. . . . He [Hefflebower] was carried to a Hospital in the neighborhood of Trenton . . . .

August 26, 1834

State of Pennsylvania
Lancaster County
Before me . . . a Justice of the peace in and for the said County personally appeared Jacob Heffelbower formerly of Dauphin County but now of Lancas. County . . . doth depose and say . . . that **John Gundrum** of Lebanon County who carried him from the battle ground [at Princeton] is now deceased . . .
Sworn and Subscribed the twenty sixth day of Augst 1834
Before me Andrew Wade [signed, in German] Jacob Hefflibauer

John Gundrum's name does not appear on the records of any Pennsylvania unit at the battle of Princeton. So, what was he doing there? Another soldier, George Trump, provided an additional affidavit to support Heffelbower's claim. In an amendment to his earlier testimony, Heffelbower referred to "George Trump a Wagoner of the Army." Quite possibly, **Gundrum** was a civilian teamster with the

Continental Army, whose name was not recorded on the regimental records. The mystery of his presence at the Princeton engagement remains and research continues. Wish me luck!

What Happened to Great, Great, Great Grandfather William Miller?
By Erica Runkles

My mother, Mary Douglass Ritz Risser, had deep York County roots. Many of her ancestors can easily be traced back to the early 1700s, while others have been far more difficult to trace. One such ancestor was my 3rd great grandfather William Miller. Miller, of course, is a frequent surname, especially within our family tree.

The 20th of November 1850 census record showed that my 3rd great grandfather William Miller, was a farmer living in the Winterstown area of Hopewell Township, York County. He and his wife, my 3rd great grandmother, Mary Ann Hildebrand (1818-1898) had seven children: the eldest, my 2nd great grandfather, Benjamin Miller (1840-1915), Henry Miller (1846-1915), Zachariah Miller (1850-1919), Louisa "Lucy" A. Miller (1854-1917), Sarah Ann Miller (1854-1927), Elias Miller (1859-1925) and Ellen Miller (1862-1941). In the 1850 Agricultural census, his farm yielded buckwheat, Irish potatoes, wheat, rye, oats, sweet potatoes, butter, hay, wool, sheep, swine, and Indian corn. In 1865, he had bought additional land from his neighbor, Jacob Snyder, who would die the following year. His tract contained 60 acres, more or less, "a one-story Log House, a Log Barn Stone, a Spring House with good water, a Bake Oven, and a Good Orchard." There was also a seven-acre tract of timberland. However, on Saturday, the 5th day of January 1867, the estate of William Miller was sold at a Sheriff's Sale. William's son, Benjamin Miller tried to buy the farm for $825 but was unable to find the money. By 1870, William's wife Mary Miller was living with her younger children in the vicinity of Blymire Hollow, near Winterstown; there was no mention of William. Indeed, I found no evidence of William Miller except for a gravestone carving noting that Mary Miller was the wife of William Miller. Had he died in 1867? The cemetery had no record of him. It was a Brick wall.

Over the summer I encountered a woman on ancestry.com whose great grandfather Elias Miller and my Benjamin Miller were siblings. The woman told me that William had moved to Hellam Township with son Elias, but 1880 census records showed Elias was still in Hopewell Township. Her mother had revealed that family lore said that in 1870 William had "hung himself and was buried in a hedgerow." Needless to say, this was very sad news. Was there more to the story? While I was at York County Archives, I mentioned the situation to one of the archivists, Nikki, who loves a mystery. She perused pre-1900 coroner reports and was able to find a William Miller inquest dated 1875. Below is the document from the inquest which leaves little to the imagination and courts no mercy.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania {SS.
York County

"An inquisition indented and taken at Hellam Township in the county of York, Twenty-nineth day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, before me, Frank J. Magee, one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the said county of York, upon the view of the body of William Miller, then and there lying dead upon the oaths of Dr. L. L. Revalt, Abraham Charles, Joseph S. Wilson, George Wilhelm Sr, John Reiman, and John Coyle, good and lawful men of the county aforesaid; who being sworn to inquire, on part of the Commonwealth, when, where, how and after what manner said, William Miller came to his death, do say, upon their oath that the said William Miller, late of Hellam Township aforesaid, laborer, not having the fear of God before his eyes, but being seduced and moved by the instigation of the devil, in Hellam Township aforesaid, on the public road leading from the Codorus furnace road to Coyle's ferry in Hellam Township aforesaid more than ten miles from the (Bas'?) standing and being, the said William Miller being then and there alone, with a certain piece of rope of the

value of four cents, which he then and there had and held in his hands, and one end thereof then and there, put about his neck, and the other end thereof tied about the top of a post in the fence along the side of said road, himself then and there with the piece of rope aforesaid, voluntarily and feloniously and of his malice aforethought, hanged and suffocated; and so the jurors, aforesaid upon their oath, say, that said William Miller then and there in manner and form aforesaid, as a felon of himself, feloniously, voluntarily and of his malice aforethought, himself killed, strangled, and murdered, against the peace and the dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And moreover, the Jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do say that said the William Miller had not any goods or chattels lands or tenements, within the county aforesaid or elsewhere to the knowledge of the said jurors.
In witness whereof, as well aforesaid Justice of the Peace as well as the Jurors aforesaid have to this inquisition, put their hands and seals on the day and year first above mentioned."

Frank J. Magee, Justice of the Peace
Jurors
Abraham Charles
Joseph S. Wilson
George Wilhelm, Sr.
John Raymond
John Coyle

A Suicide.—Yesterday, at about one o'clock in the afternoon, as Jacob Hetrick of Hellam township was passing along the road leading from the Codorus road to Coyle's ferry, he discovered the body of a man suspended by the neck to the fence, which proved to be that of William Miller aged about 50 years, a resident of said township. The suicide was seen by other gentlemen who passed by, a short time before he committed the deed, and who exchanged some words with him. The deed, according to testimony adduced at the inquest, was long before premeditated by the deceased as he had expressed himself to a number of persons that he purposed "putting himself out of the way." He carried out his purpose most effectually as the position of the body when found, showed conclusively a very deliberate and determined destruction of life. The rope was fastened to the post near the top and was of sufficient length to allow his knees to touch the ground, but he apparently threw himself outward from the fence causing death by strangulation. Word was given to Esquire Magee who proceeded to the place and summoned Dr. L. L. Rewalt, Abraham Charles, Joseph S. Wilson, Geo. Wilhelm, Sr., John Coyle and John Raymond, a jury to hold an inquest upon the body, and who rendered their verdict in accordance with the above facts. The acting coroner found considerable difficulty in disposing of the body as not one of these present would render any assistance, and among the number was an unfeeling brother who refused absolutely to have anything to do with the body. The remains was brought to this place and buried in the cemetery.—*Wrightsville Star.*

The True Democrat carried the Wrightsville Star article on May 4, 1875. After reading the *Wrightsville Star*, I started looking for a local cemetery which might have buried William Miller. While Find-a-Grave had no record on William Miller in Wrightsville, Hellam Township, Fairview (Wrightsville) Cemetery had records for three William Millers – one of whom had had a burial on April 30, 1875. The custodian of the cemetery graciously checked records on Miller and confirmed he was 68 years old when he died. "Charlie" also staked the area so I could see William's plot location. The section where William is buried was set aside in 1870 for unknown soldiers, someone who drowned in the Susquehanna River or was indigent.

These days, an inquest similar to this 1875 document would sound brutal with no sympathy for the victim's state of mind. I see the tragedy of a spent, lonely, ancestor giving up on life's hardships.

From the Bucks County Genealogical Society
PO Box 297 Doylestown PA 18901
www.bucksgen.org • www.facebook.com/bucksgen

Saturday, November 7, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom:
"Timeline Techniques for Early Rural Genealogy"
presented by Kimberly Bucklaw

Learn how to use comparative timelines in conjunction with tax lists and clues from a variety of other records to overcome research obstacles pertaining to early rural families. You'll also learn how timelines can help keep large overwhelming projects organized and focused.

Saturday, December 5, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom:
"Timeline Techniques for tracking 18th and 19th Century Urban Ancestors"
presented by Kimberly Bucklaw

Do you have ancestors that seem "lost" in the big city? Learn how to use clues found in directories and other records, along with maps and timelines, to solve mysteries pertaining to ancestors in urban areas.

Programs are open to the public:
$5 members / $10 non-members
Both programs are recorded and available for 30 days to members only who registered.
Visit https://www.bucksgen.org/index.php/bcgs-programs for complete information and registration.

SOUTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 1824
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA

DATED MATERIAL – DO NOT DELAY

October 4, 2026, Program on York County Barns Presented by Greg Huber

At our last SCPGS meeting, we were greeted by many people who were quite interested in Greg Huber's knowledge on York County Barns. He started by describing a 1748 Ground Barn in Montgomery County which had been moved some distance to be rebuilt with a basement. He mentioned a particular Dillsburg Barn that had also been moved. Regarding old barns, he said "1750 belongs to 1750," noting how barns have radically changed over the years. He shared that the industrial revolution emerged around the post-1820 period and with it new ideas for constructing barns. Huber spoke of the three categories of barns, as follows:

- The Ground Barn was the earliest in North America; he sighted one on Rt 74 on the way to southern York County which had a barn with goats. It was built starting around 1830-1840
- The Switzer Barns had an asymmetric outline as well as two levels.
- The Standard 2 level bank barn.

For further detailed information: https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=D-SB0u5zYgA&ra=m