

# Pennsylvania Research: Four Centuries of History and Genealogy

## *19<sup>th</sup> Century Research*

Ann G. Lawthers, Genealogist

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®  
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# Meet today's presenter



Ann G. Lawthers

Genealogist with the Brue Family Learning Center

# OVERVIEW

- **Presentation (60 mins.)**
  - History
  - Records
  - Other resources
- **Q&A (30 mins.)**

## History

Population growth  
Steerage Act of 1819  
Transportation innovations  
Civil War  
Industrial growth

## Major Record Sets

Census and city directories  
Vital and Religious records  
Immigration and naturalization  
Newspaper  
Military and pension

## Other

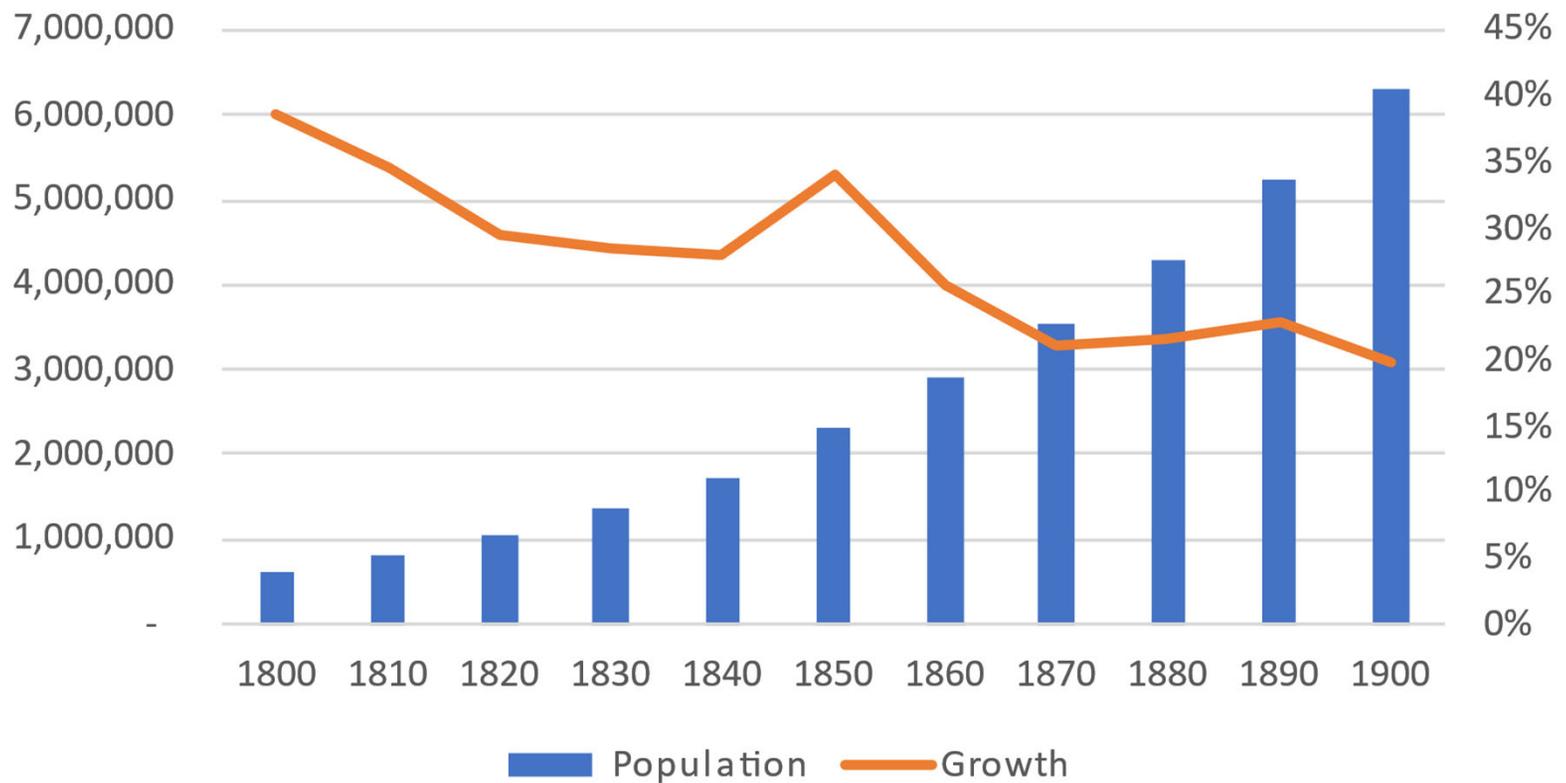
County histories  
Manuscripts  
Common problems and their solutions



*Voice of*  
Ann G. Lawthers

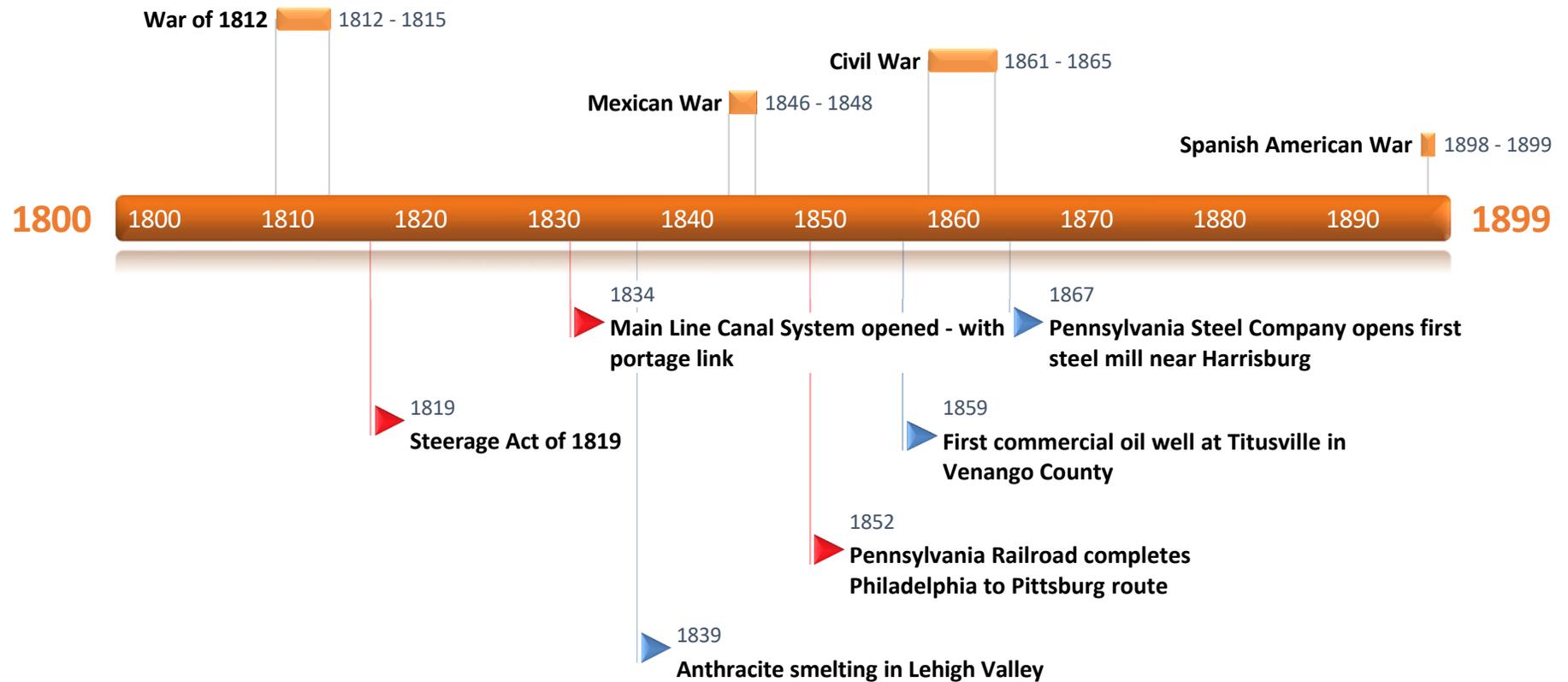
# Population Growth

## 19th Century Pennsylvania Population



U.S. Federal Census data – 1890 estimated

# Major Events Affecting Pennsylvania 1800-1899



# Steerage Act of 1819

- Became effect in January 1820
- Regulated the conditions of transport for passengers
  - Limited number of passenger per tonnage of ship to prevent overcrowding
  - Minimum conditions for provisioning specified
- All captains required to submit a manifest of passengers to port authorities

# Immigration Patterns

- 1800-1830
  - Mostly from the British Isles and German-speaking regions
- 1830-1860
  - Increase in numbers of Roman Catholic Irish, especially during famine period
- 1860-1900
  - Eastern European

# Post Revolutionary War Transportation Innovations

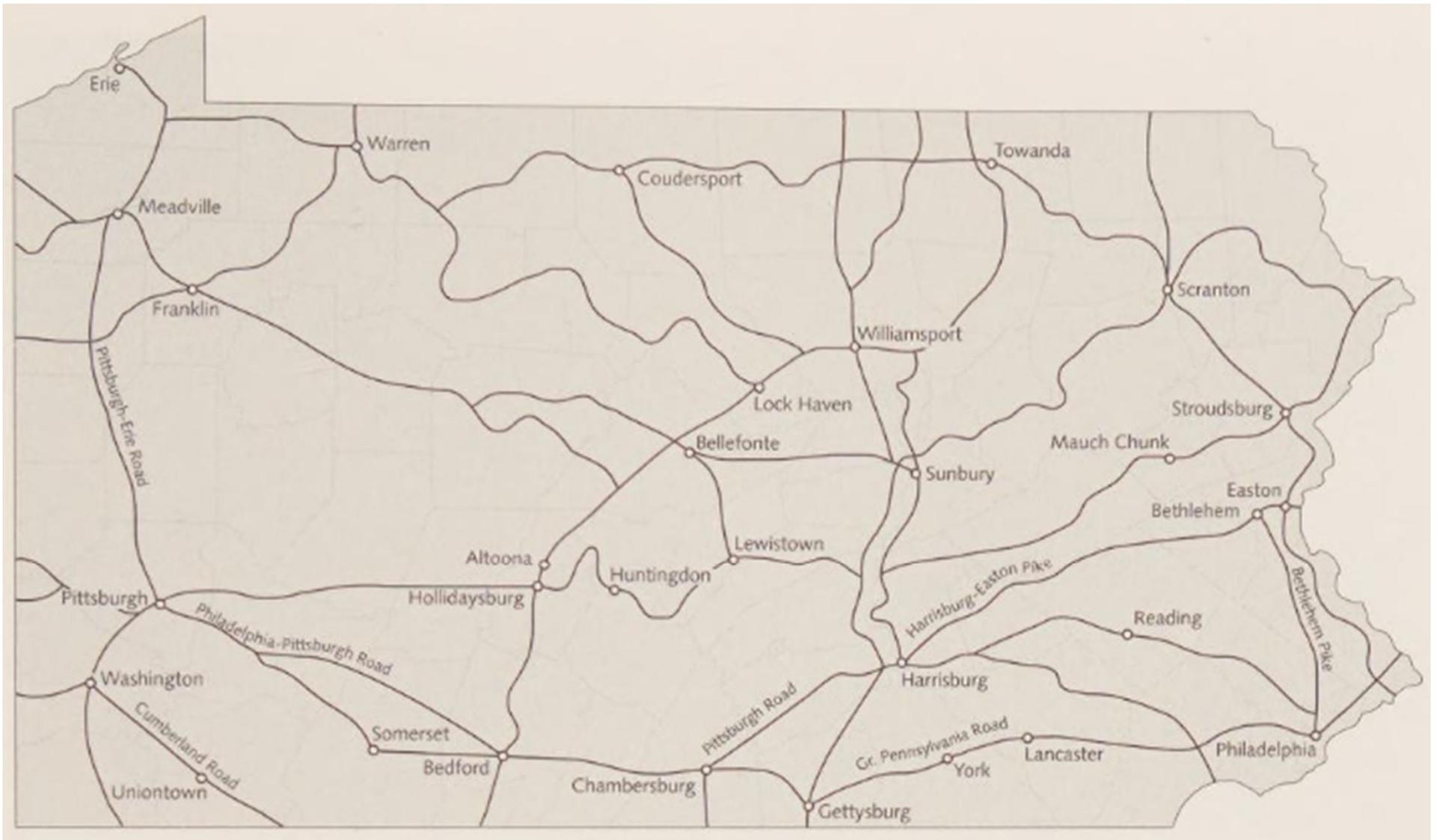
- Turnpikes
- National Road



# National Road



- Built with Congressional Funds
- Begun in 1811 in Cumberland Maryland, to Wheeling, West Virginia by 1818 and Vandalia, Illinois by 1837 – money ran out
- Huge economic boon: one tavern every ten miles

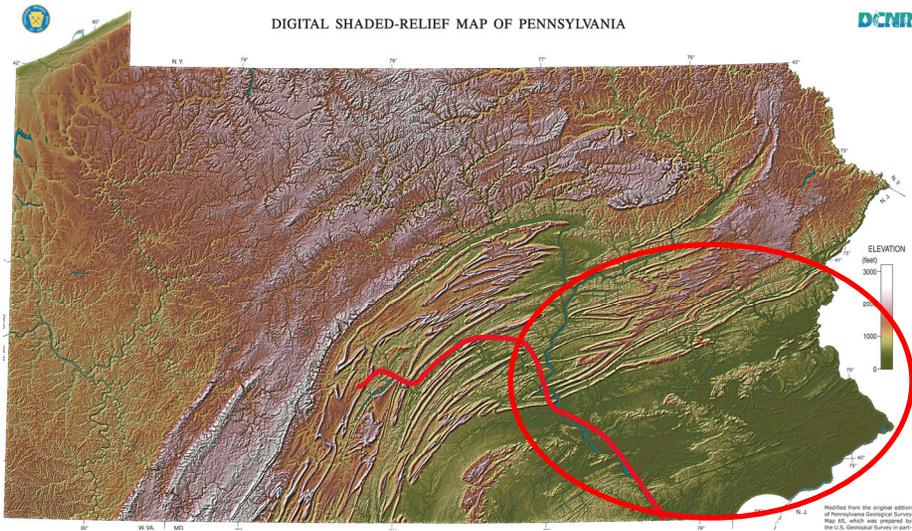


## Pennsylvania Turnpikes by 1840

Miller and Pencack, *Pennsylvania : a History of the Commonwealth*, p. 179

# Main Line Public Works

- Debate: cross-state canal or cross-state railroad?
  - Philadelphia merchants feared loss of trade to New York due to Erie Canal
  - Growth of Pittsburgh and need to link the city with the east
  - Railroad technology still in its infancy in the 1820s so the canal model won approval
- Main Line of Public Works authorized in 1826, construction began in 1827
- Canal and portage opened in 1834



Freeworldmaps.net



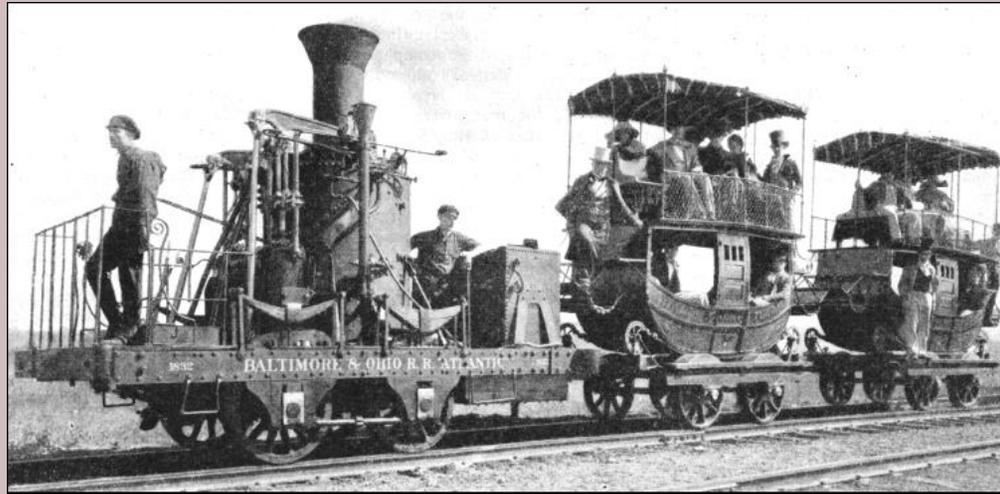
USGS, Digital Map, 1999

# Topography and canals

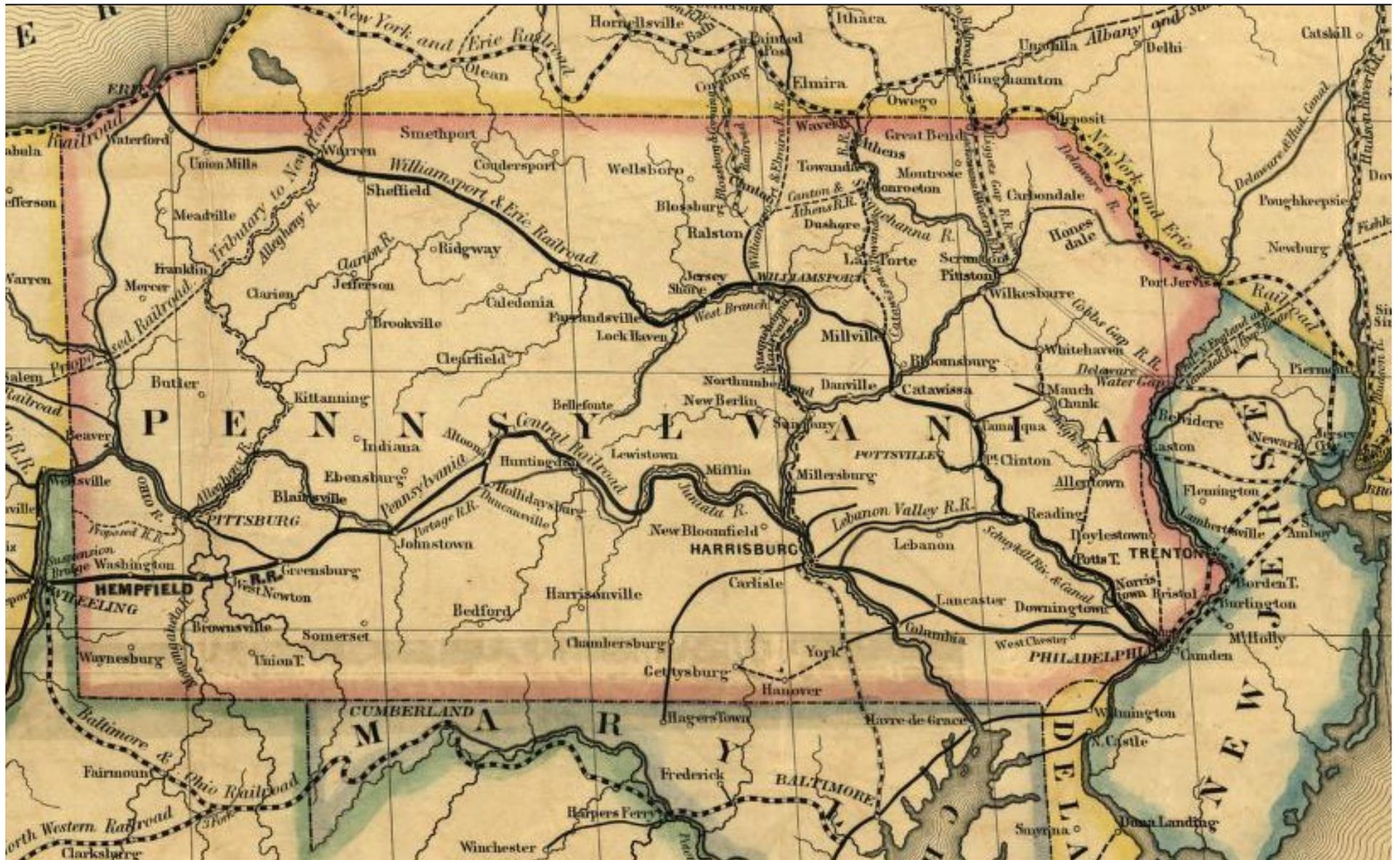
# PA Canals by 1840



# Coming of the Railroads



- After the slow start of the 1830s, Pennsylvania became a national leader in railroad development in the 1840s and 1850s
- By 1860 more total railroad mileage than any other state

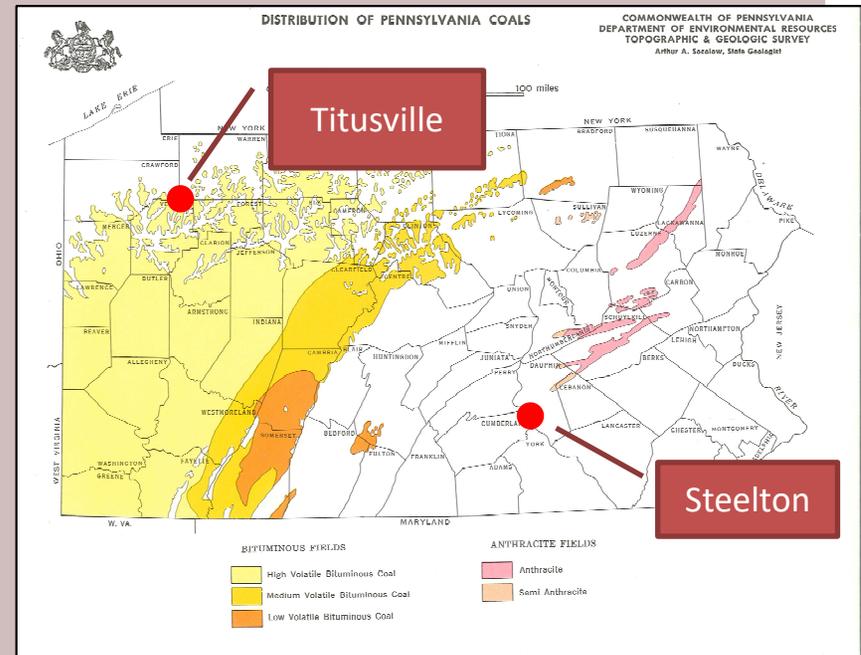


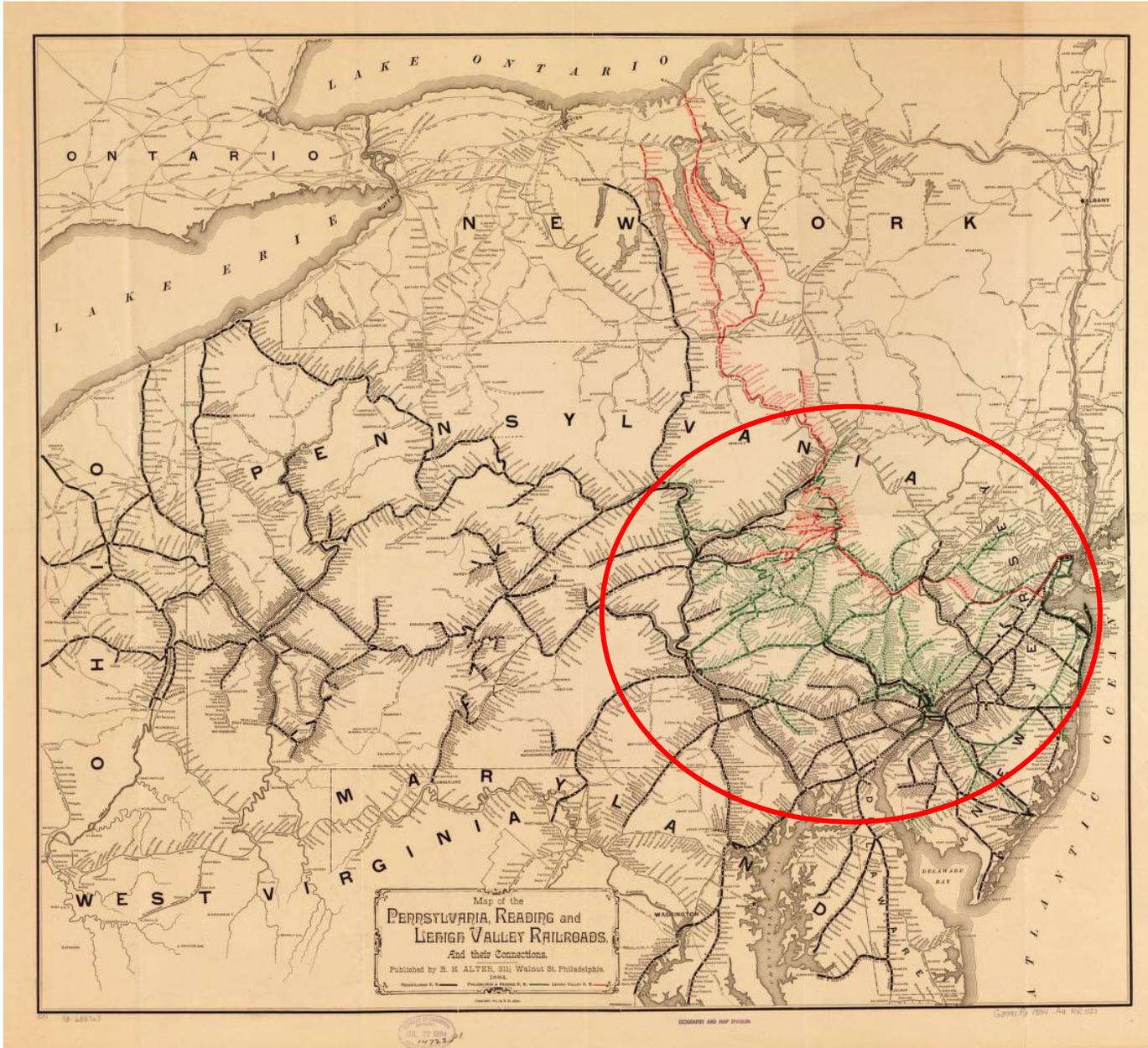
## 1851 – Pennsylvania Railroad System

LOC – “Map of the western railroads tributary to Philadelphia,” Charles Ellert, 1851

# Industrial Growth

- Manufacturing
  - Silk, hosiery, wool
  - Carpet making
  - Philadelphia a leader
- Coal and Oil
  - Anthracite east of Allegheny mountains
  - Bituminous west side
  - 1859 Oil well at Titusville
- Iron and Steel
  - 1867 First steel mill in Steelton on banks of Susquehanna and Pennsylvania canal





# Lehigh Valley Railroads - 1884



# QUESTIONS?

# Session Roadmap

## History

Population growth  
Steerage Act of 1819  
Transportation innovations  
Civil War  
Industrial growth

## Major Record Sets

Census and city directories  
Vital and Religious records  
Immigration and naturalization  
Newspaper  
Military and pension

## Other

County histories  
Manuscripts  
Common problems and their solutions

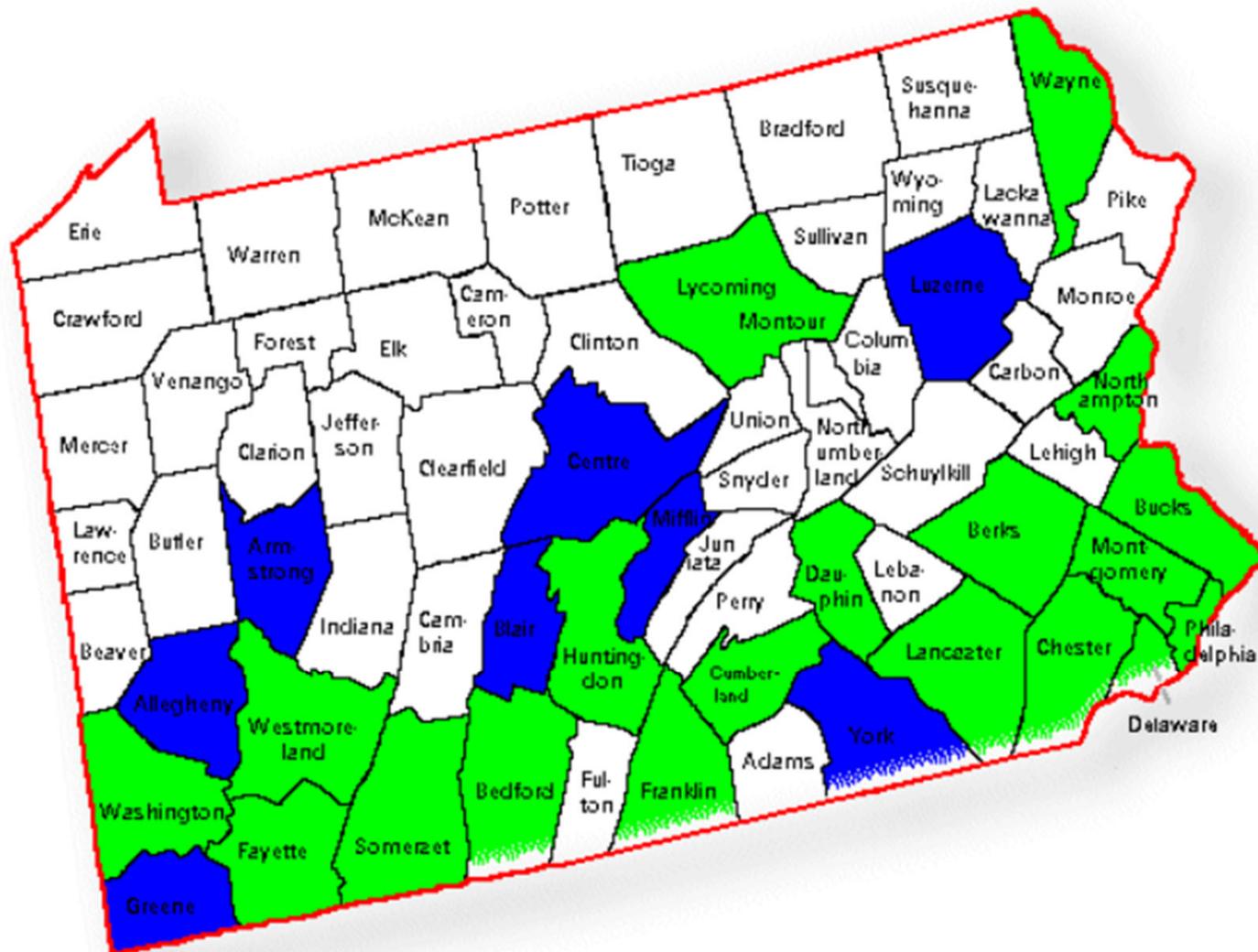
# U.S. Federal Census

- 1800-1840
  - Only head of household named
  - Valuable information about household size and composition provided by tick marks
- 1850-1870
  - All members of household named with ages, occupation, and place of birth
  - Generally, can assume relationships, but use caution
  - Valuable for following migration of families through the birthplaces of their children
- 1880
  - Relationship to head of household
  - Birthplace of parents of each member of household

# PA Septennial Census

- No state censuses were ever conducted in Pennsylvania
- Taxpayers were enumerated every seven years for the purpose of determining representation in the General Assembly
- Years 1779-1863
- For some counties, enslaved individuals named

## Septennial Census



source: diymaps.net (c)

Blue = standard census only  
Green = adds enslaved persons census

## 1800 – Septennial Census



# City Directories

# Why Use Directories?

- Census substitutes
- Offers an alphabetical list of names
- Pins your ancestors to a specific time and place
- May include family information and occupation
- May provide clues around death and marriage dates

# Pennsylvania Directories

- Philadelphia – starting 1785, 1791, 1793 forward
- Pittsburgh – starting in 1861
- Available at
  - *FamilySearch.org*
  - *Ancestry.com* (\$)
  - *Fold3.com* (\$)
  - *City Directories of the United States* -  
[www.uscitydirectories.com](http://www.uscitydirectories.com)

[ 41 ]  
 Dick Daniel, merchant 17 south Front st  
 Dick Philip, taylor 26 south Water st  
 Dick Frederick, taylor between Second and Third in Catherine S

**Dixey Charles, pump maker corner of Fourth and Callowhill st**  
**Dixey Ifaiah, pump maker near Vine in north Eighth st**  
**Dixey Thomas, pump maker between Lombard and South in Fifth S**  
 Dixon John, maltard manufacturer 74 south Front st  
 Dobbelaere Henry, shipwright Coates alley  
 Dobbins Thomas, taylor 21 south Front st  
 Dobbins Justus, taylor 31 south Fourth st

Oak st  
 Dickinon Daniel, glover 32 south Second st  
 Dickinon Henry, gentleman near Chefnut in south Eighth st  
 Dickfon Patrick, Stamper's alley  
 Dickfon John, grocer corner of Third and Lombard st  
 Diehl John, merchant Ann st  
 Diehl Nicholas, attorney at law 30 Walnut st  
 Diehl Nicholas and Co. merchants 127 north Water st  
 Dillingham, Simeon, innkeeper 76 north Water st  
 Dilworth Joseph, ironmonger 201 Market st  
 Dinwpor Silas, principal of the Young Ladies' academy 9 Cherry alley  
 Disborough Henry, M. D. 25 Race st  
 Dixey Charles, pump maker corner of Fourth and Callowhill st  
 Dixey Ifaiah, pump maker near Vine in north Eighth st  
 Dixey Thomas, pump maker between Lombard and South in Fifth S  
 Dixon John, maltard manufacturer 74 south Front st  
 Dobbelaere Henry, shipwright Coates alley  
 Dobbins Thomas, taylor 21 south Front st  
 Dobbins Justus, taylor 31 south Fourth st  
 Dobson George, merchant 92 High st  
 Dobson Thomas, bookfeller and Stationer 41 south Second st  
 Dodds Martha, widow seamstress 282 south Front st  
 Doile Rebecca, seamstress between Front and Second in Queen st  
 Dolan John, grocer 116 south Fourth st  
 Dolby Mary, gentlewoman 31 Penn st  
 Doman John, house carpenter 70 Shippen st  
 Dominick Charles, painter and glazier 39 Keys alley  
 Donaldson Ifaac, hatter 72 north Second st  
 Donaldson William T. mast maker 8 Queen st  
 Donaldson Arthur, shopkeeper 37 Market and 72 north Second st  
 Donaldson Aaron, boot and shoemaker 152 Swanfon st  
 Donaldson, Joseph, merchant 116 north Fourth st  
 Donath Joseph and Co. merchants 28 south Front st  
 Donnelly Catherine, washer 37 Zeen st  
 Donhoue Thomas, sea captain 10 Union st  
 Doning Aaron, mariner between Fourth and Fifth in German st  
 Donley Patrick, painter near the corner of Swanfon and Almcnd st  
 F

1800

Philadelphia – 1800 & 1890

All kinds of **CASTINGS** made promptly at **CRESWELL'S IRON FOUNDRY,**  
 514 to 518 RACE STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
 WOL 1890 WOL

Established 1836  
**WEBB'S ALCOHOLS**

Wolf Moses L., hatter, h 2930 Kensington av Wolf Nathan S., grocer, 1222 Oxford Wolf Nicholas, weaver, h 290 Levering, Myk Wolf Otto, lawyer, 520 Walnut, h 1815 S 5th Wolf Otto C., architect, 419 Walnut, h 2343 Oxford Wolf Peter, grocer, 606 Serrill Wolf Peter, tanner, h 229 Wood Wolf Rebecca, wid Frederick, h 1642 Alder Wolf Robert, lager, 901 N 5th Wolf Robert, tailor, h 705 May Wolf Robert W., grocer, 1444 S 8th Wolf Ross, grocer, 115 Diamond Wolf Rudolph H., instmkr, h 1647 Francis Wolf Samuel, barber, h 1743 Alder Wolf Samuel, driver, h 318 German Wolf Samuel J., engineer, h 1625 Bailey Wolf Samuel E., butcher, h 1440 N 5th Wolf Samuel T., clerk, h 1203 Wood Wolf Sarah, wid William C., h 1901 Tulip Wolf Sarah A., wid Lewis, h 2433 Ingersoll Wolf Sarah T., wid John, h 5121 Gtn av Wolf Simon, clerk, h 604 N 8th Wolf Simon, insurance, h 712 N 7th Wolf Solomon (S. Wolf & Sons), h 894 N 6th Wolf Solomon, salesman, h 1815 N 5th Wolf Sophia, wid John, h 1815 Heath Wolf Sylvester E., machnst, h 4505 Moyal, Gtn Wolf S. & Sons (Solomon, Martin L. & Elias), li- quors, 314 N 3d & 3rd Wood Wolf Theodore H., clerk, h r 110 Van Horn Wolf Theodore W., teas, 5 S Front, h 2946 N 11th Wolf Valentine, mchnst, h 1487 Parrish Wolf Wendelin, tailor, h 1617 N 5th Wolf William, h 84 Adams, Fkd Wolf William, h 709 N 48th Wolf William, basketmkr, h r 420 Dillwyn Wolf William, blacksmith, h 45 S 17th Wolf William, butcher, h 2324 N 6th Wolf William, conductor, h 1027 S 17th Wolf William, finisher, h 1818 Townsend Wolf William, lager, 2309 N 2d	Wolfe Lydia M., boarding, 255 N 6th Wolfe Oliver, stairbuilder, h 1810 Willington Wolfe Reese D. (Hanson & Wolfe), h 2128 N 13th Wolfe Snybl P., wid John K., h 2341 Sansom Wolfe Thomas W., shoemkr, h 1340 Perth Wolfe T. Heston, collector, h 1549 Park av Wolfe William, waiter, h 430 Garden Wolfe William B., machninst, h 1804 Ringgold Wolfe William H., clerk, h 1726 N 10th Wolfe William N., watchman, h 2136 N 7th Wolfenden Edward, grinder, h 2137 Gaul Wolfenden Elizabeth, wid Jeremiah, h r 912 Beach Wolfenden George, sawmkr, h 2137 Gaul Wolfenden James, grinder, h 1150 Beach Wolfenden John, liquors, 2309 Callowhill Wolfenden Keturah C., nurse, 333 Ella Wolfenden Samuel, grinder, h r 912 Beach Wolfenden Shore & Co. (Jonathan & James Wolf- enden & Jesse Shore), shoddy, N 70th n Vine Wolfenden Samuel L., sawmkr, h 720 Otis Wolfendine Jeremiah, mldr, h 718 E Thompson Wolfer George, stoneculter, h 183 Millin, Falls Wolfer Henry, driver, h 225 E York Wolfer Jacob, turner, h r 809 Mackinaw Wolfer Joseph, barber, 480 1/2 Gtn av Wolfer J. George, grocer, 1507 Gtn av Wolfersberger George A., clerk, h 4053 Aspen Wolfersberger Harry D., clerk, h 1610 N 13th Wolfersberger Mary, wid Phillip, h 4053 Aspen Wolfersberger Paul, clerk, h 1123 Green Wolfert August G., dyer, h 2041 Manakin Wolfert Charles, carpenter, h 1815 Montrose Wolfert George A., dyer, h 3021 N 5th Wolfert James, waiter, h 1740 Addison Wolfert Theresa, tailor, h 4 r 215 Canal Wolfert Catharine, wid Gottlieb, h 947 St John Wolfert George, printer, h 947 St John Wolferts Herman, weaver, h 2318 N 28th Wolf Alice J., wid William, h r 815 New Market Wolf & Randolph (George S. Wolf & Richard W. Randolph), chemicals, 133 N Front
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**Wolfert Charles, Carpenter, h 1610 Montrose**  
**Wolfert George A., dyer, h 3021 N 5th**  
**Wolfert James, waiter, h 1740 Addison**  
**Wolfert Theresa, tailor, h 4 r 215 Canal**  
**Wolfert Catharine, wid Gottlieb, h 947 St John**  
**Wolfert George, printer, h 947 St John**  
**Wolferts Herman, weaver, h 2318 N 28th**  
**Wolff Alice J., wid William, h r 815 New Market**  
**Wolff & Randolph (George S. Wolf & Richard**

Wolf Charles, police, h 500 Lombard Wolfe David H., clerk, h 631 N 40th Wolfe David H., segars, 204 Wharton Wolfe Edmund R., laborer, h 746 S 3d Wolfe Ellsworth E., printer, h 1549 Park av Wolfe Frank, lawyer, 524 Walnut, h Bethlehem pike n Summit, C Hill Wolfe George (Galtch & Wolf), h 1217 Dickin- son Wolfe George, hatter, h 1217 Deacon Wolfe George S., painter, h 984 Fernon Wolfe George W., carpenter, h 1524 Wallace Wolfe George W., fitter, h 294 Watkins Wolfe Henry, carpenter, h 307 Buttonwood Wolfe Herman, salesman, h 1320 Marshall Wolfe Jacob, machninst, h 3826 Howard Wolfe Jacob, salesman, h 2226 Jefferson Wolfe Jacob P., oysters, 382 N 3d, h 1054 Gtn av Wolfe James H., lawyer, 33 S 3d, h 829 Marshall Wolfe John K., h 3244 Sansom Wolfe Joseph F., clerk, h 3088 Locust Wolse Joseph H., h 805 Preston, W P	Wolf John F., paperhanger, h 2338 Thompson Wolf Joseph, peddler, h 2923 Fkd av Wolff Joseph A., compsr, h 2026 Warnock Wolf Julius, florist, Ridge av r N 32d Wolff Julius, physician, 547 Parrish Wolff Julius, Jr., florist, 1617 N 19th, h 1909 Ox- ford Wolff J. & Bros. (Zachariah, Frederick & Benjamin S.), paperhangings, 468 N 3d Wolf Lawrence, physician, 333 S 12th Wolf Lewis, clerk, h 1401 S 17th Wolf Louis B., painter, h r 815 New Market Wolf Louisa, grocer, 485 St John Wolf Mahlon F., messenger, h 1941 Camac Wolf Mary, wid Abraham S., h 1530 Green Wolf Mary B., wid William H., h 1930 Race Wolf Max, tinsmith, h Greenway ia n Wood- land av Wolff Milford, barber, h 707 S Broad Wolff Pauline (Keiner & Wolf), h 1233 Callow- hill
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Steam, Belt, Hydraulic & Hand-Power Passenger & Freight  
**CLEM & MORSE, 411 & 413 Cherry St., Phila.** See Adver-  
 page XIII

**Elevators**

1890

# Vital Records

# Pennsylvania Vital Records

- Consistent Pennsylvania vital record keeping started in the 20<sup>th</sup> century

	Birth	County Marriages	Death
Earliest	1852-54, 1893	1885, some in 1700s	1852-54, 1893
Statewide Registration	January 1906		January 1906
General Compliance	1915		1915

Table from FamilySearch.org Research Wiki – Pennsylvania Vital Records

- January 12, 1852, first statewide law requiring vital records registration
- Repealed three years later in 1855

# 49 Counties Collected Some Data 1852-1855

- Collected by Register of Wills in the County
- Available at Ancestry.com (\$)

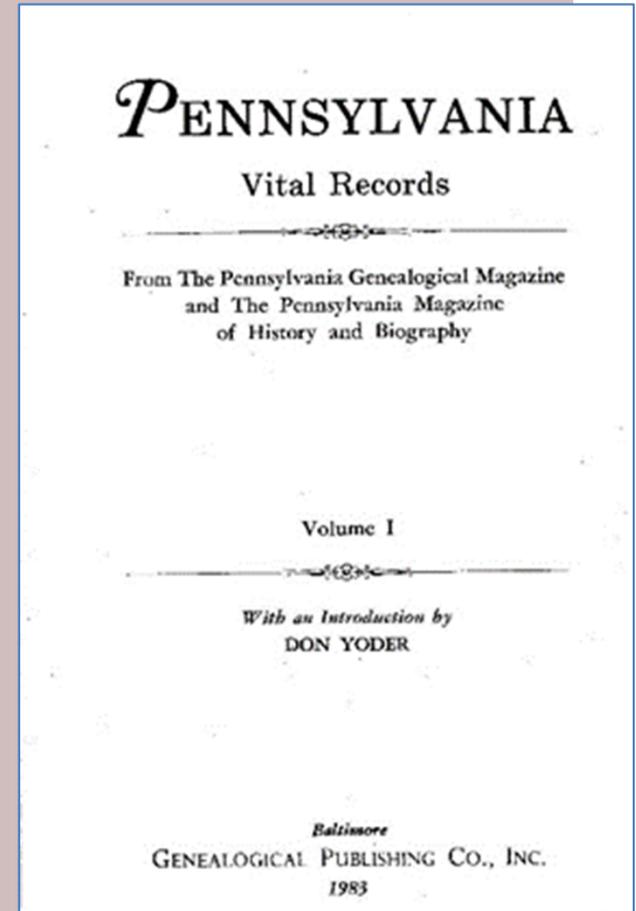
Registration of Births in the County of *Mercer* in the State of Pennsylvania  
*No. D., eighteen hundred and fifty two* in accordance with the fifth section of the  
*Registration Act, which occurred previously to the passage of said Act.*

1. Full name of child,	<i>John Bah</i>	<i>Sarah Ann Page</i>
2. Sex,	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
3. Color,	<i>White</i>	<i>White</i>
4. Full name of father,	<i>Jacob Bah</i>	<i>Hiram Page</i>
5. Occupation of father,	<i>Miner</i>	<i>Blacksmith &amp; Lumber</i>
6. Names of other issue living,	<i>Jane Britz</i>	<i>Susanna Longles John M. Mary Jane</i>
7. Name of the mother previously to marriage,	<i>Jane Britz</i>	<i>Ann George Washington</i>
8. Hour, day, month and year of birth,	<i>11 P.M. Tuesday Sep 29th 1852</i>	<i>9 A.M. Friday July 13th 1852</i>
9. Place, town or township, and county in which born,	<i>Hickory Township</i>	<i>Coolspring Township</i>
10. Name of physician or other person signing certificate,	<i>A. Harsha</i>	<i>Blanch Baskin, M.D.</i>
11. Residence of such person,	<i>Clarksville</i>	<i>Mercer</i>
12. Date of certificate,	<i>Oct 15th 1852</i>	<i>Nov 2nd 1852</i>
13. Date of registration,	<i>Oct 15th 1852</i>	<i>Nov 2nd 1852</i>
14. Signature of the register or his deputy,	<i>D. I. Mowen Dpy</i>	<i>D. I. Mowen Dpy</i>
15. Any additional circumstances,		

Page of births, Mercer County, 1852

# Pennsylvania Vital Records

- From the *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* and the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*
- 3 Volumes, introduction by Don Yoder
- Published by Genealogical Publishing Company in 1983
- Available online at [Archive.org](https://www.archive.org)



*Contents*

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Obits of Revolutionary Veterans from *The Franklin Repository* and *The Franklin Telegraph and Democratic Advertiser*, Etc., by Anna R. Rupley, from *PGM*, Vol. XII (1935), 283-285 1

Earliest Records of the Burials in Phila. from the Board of Health, by Francis Olcott Allen, from *PGM*, Vol. I (1898), 225-250; Vol. II (1900), 34-59 4

Marriages by John Hutchinson, Pastor, Presbyterian Congregation, Millintown and Lost Creek, Pennsylvania, 1806-1844, by Mrs. Mary Grace Sieber, from *PGM*, Vol. XI (1930, 1931), 66-71, 163-167 56

Marriages by Matthew Allison, Pastor, Presbyterian Congregations, Millintown and Lost Creek, Pennsylvania, by Mrs. Mary Grace Sieber, from *PGM*, Vol. XI (1932), 251-259 67

Obituary Notices of Pennsylvania Soldiers of the Revolution, by William Summers, from *PMHB*, Vol. XXXVIII (1914), 443-460 76

Marriage Docket of James Walton, Esq., East Fallowfield, Chester County, 1809-1832, from *PGM*, Vol. XII (1935), 293-294 94

Marriages from *The Philadelphia Repertory*, May 5th, 1810 to April 13th, 1811, from *PGM*, Vol. XI (1930), 50-54 96

Deaths from *The Philadelphia Repertory*, May 5th, 1810 to April 13th, 1811, from *PGM*, Vol. XI (1931), 160-162 101

Marriage Docket of James McFarlan, Esq., Brandywine and Uwchlan Townships, Chester County, 1811-1838, from *PGM*, Vol. XIII (1936), 134-139 103

Marriages of Rev. John Knoske, 1811-1849, from the *Reading Adler*, Berks County, Pennsylvania, by Mrs. Charles Mays Steinmetz, from *PGM*, Vol. XIV (1944), 285-291 109

Marriage Record of Mahlon Van Booskirk, by William Summers, from *PGM*, Vol. IV (1911), 305-311 116

Midwife's Records, 1816-1828, Montgomery County, from *PGM*, Vol. XXIX (1975), 64-66 123

Marriages by Rev. Thomas J. Kitts, Pastor, Canton Baptist Church, Salem County, New Jersey, 1818-1820; Later of Northern Liberties, Philadelphia, by A. R. Kitts, from *PGM*, Vol. XII (1933, 1934, 1935), 10-20, 127-135, 244-252 126

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## Midwife's Records, 1816-1828

### Montgomery County

In the Unger Collection of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania are three sheets, with birth records entered on both sides, indexed as shown in the title above, and shelved, in photocopy, with other material relating to Montgomery County. The call number is Mo/11A.

The information is recorded in seven columns, written across the length of each page. Each sheet measures 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  by 8 inches, and the group was probably removed from a ledger. The handwriting is of good quality and presents few problems of legibility, though in the later pages it becomes less consistent, and there appear to be additions in another hand. In several instances, the spelling seems to be phonetic. It is recommended that interested persons refer to the photocopy in the Society for possible variant readings.

The material is presented here as in the original, except that in order to print it across the shorter dimension of the page, the "Paid" column has been omitted, as have the last names of the children in the final column, and the few mentions of distinguishing physical characteristics of the children after their parents' names. It will be noted that in most cases the children's names are not given.

Year of our Lord	Months	days	Children Born	Name of Parents	Children's Names
1816	January	17	A male	for Robert & Martha Edwards	John
	November	24	A male	for John & Abigail Overholzer	Rubin
1817	February	10	A male	for Michael & Barbara Stiver	
	June	7	A male	for Abraham & Elizabeth Landes	John
		16	A male		
			& female	for William & Elizabeth Sentmen	
		29	A Female	for Humph'y I. & Susana White	Sarah Y.
	December	9	A male	for William & Mary Hendrix	
		19	A female	for Michael & Barbara Stiver	Elizabeth
1818	January	28	A female	for Archibald & Hannah Beans	
	April	9	A male	for William & Elizabeth Moor	
	June	10	A male	for Thomas & Mary Beam	
	October	12	A male	for John & Abigail Overholzer	Abraham
	November	2	A female	for Humph'y I. & Susanna White	Elizabeth
		15	A male	for John & Elizabeth Wierman	James
		23	A male	for John & Elizabeth Earp	
	December	13	A female	for Peter & Elizabeth Maberry	

Example pages – Pennsylvania Vital Records

Tip

# Use Vital Records Substitutes

# Church Records

- Premier vital record substitute
- May contain births/baptisms, marriages, deaths/burials, membership lists, and more
- Sometimes the journal or notebook of the minister exists even if congregational records do not
- First challenge is determining the denomination of your ancestor

# Which Church?

- Consult family members for religious history
- Consider ethnic group and traditional religious leanings
- Check county histories for churches in your ancestor's community
- Important Pennsylvania religious groups

Society of Friends (Quakers)	Episcopal / Anglican / Church of England
German Lutheran / German Reformed	Baptist
Presbyterian	Roman Catholic
German Pietist groups, including the Brethren (Dunkard), Mennonites, and Moravians.	

# 19<sup>th</sup> Century Pennsylvania Church Records

- *FamilySearch.org*
  - Search by place – Pennsylvania, [County], [Town]
- *Ancestry.com* (\$)
  - Pennsylvania, Church and Town Records, 1708-1985
  - Pennsylvania, Published Archives Series (series 2 and 6)
- *Idreamof.com*
  - By county databases

Shaffer's St. James Church, Nescopeck Twp., Luzerne County, PA

BAPTISMS 1836 - 1868

Parents - Johannes Nuss and Catharina  
Child - Elisabeth  
Born - Nov 4, 1836  
Bap. - Feb 19, 1837  
Sponsors - Jacob Herzel and Elisabeth

Parents - Samuel Miller and Elisabeth nee Harter  
Child - Catarina Elisabeth  
Born - Dec 6, 1836  
Bap. - Feb 19, 1837  
Sponsors - Adam Miller and Elisabeth

Parents - Conrad Nuss and Maria  
Child - Mahaly  
Born - -----  
Bap. - Mar 12, 1837  
Sponsors - Christian Nuss and Hanna

Parents - Samuel Herzel and Maria Anna  
Child - Hiram  
Born - Dec 31, 1836  
Bap. - Mar 19, 1837  
Sponsors - Jacob Schucker and Maria

Parents - David Herzel  
Child - Margareda Anna  
Born - Jan 22, 1837  
Bap. - Apr 16, 1837  
Sponsors - Jacob Herter and Margreda

<http://files.usgwarchives.net/pa/luzerne/church/stjabp01.txt>

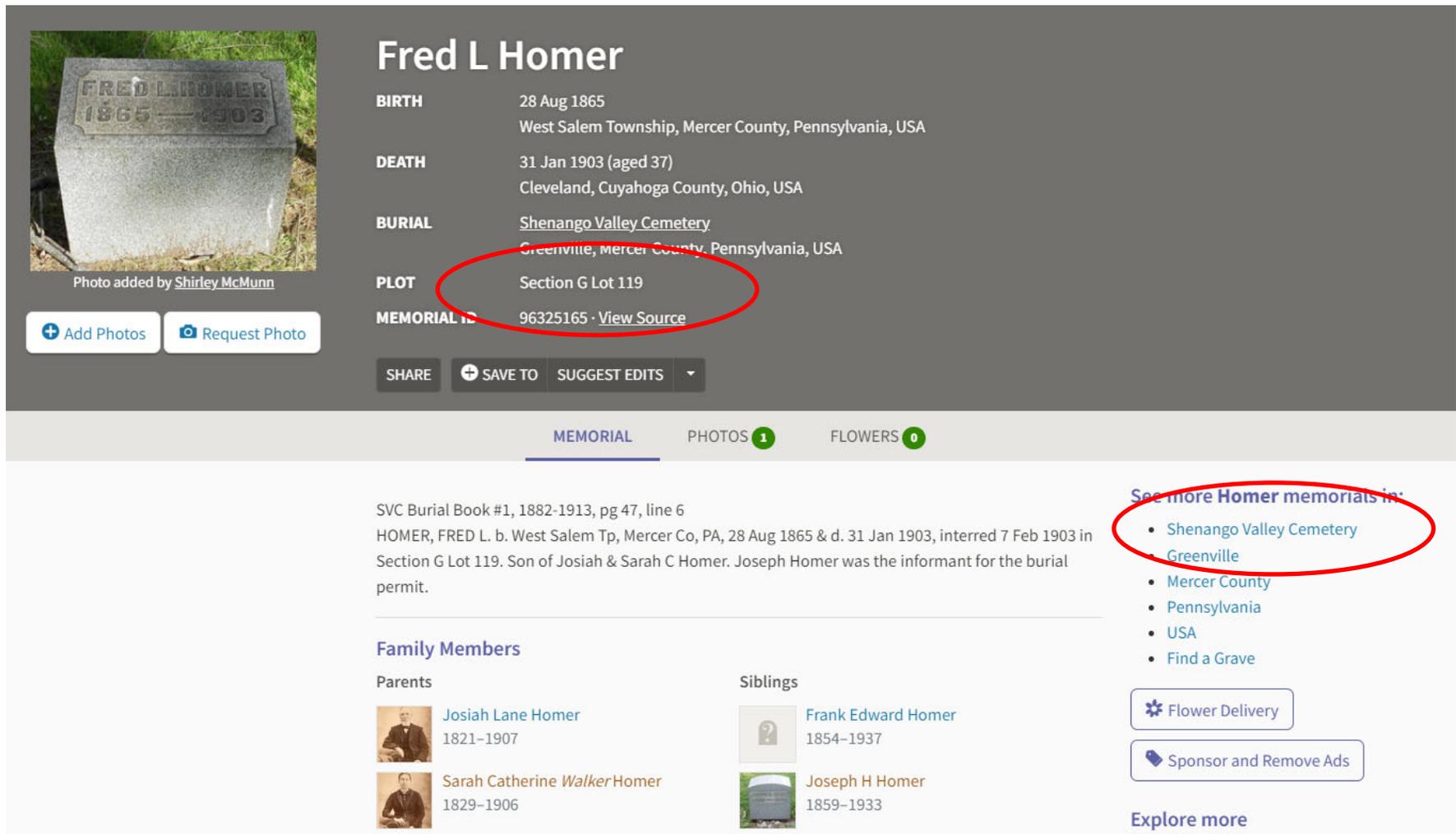
Baptisms – St. James Church, Nescopeck

# Why Use Cemetery Records

- Vital records substitute
- Find other family members
- May find maiden names or places of birth

# Cemetery Records

- *FamilySearch.org*
  - Pennsylvania Cemetery Records – 1700-1950 (collection)
  - Cemetery Records of Pennsylvania (digital book – 9 volumes)
  - Pennsylvania Cemetery Records Inventory (wiki)
- *FindAGrave.com*
- *Ancestry.com*
  - Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, U.S., Gettysburg National Cemetery, 1863-2009
  - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S., Philadelphia National Cemetery, 1862-2010



**Fred L Homer**

**BIRTH** 28 Aug 1865  
West Salem Township, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, USA

**DEATH** 31 Jan 1903 (aged 37)  
Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, USA

**BURIAL** [Shenango Valley Cemetery](#)  
Greenville, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, USA

**PLOT** Section G Lot 119

**MEMORIAL ID** 96325165 · [View Source](#)

Photo added by Shirley McMunn

[+ Add Photos](#) [Request Photo](#)

[SHARE](#) [+ SAVE TO](#) [SUGGEST EDITS](#)

**MEMORIAL** PHOTOS **1** FLOWERS **0**

SVC Burial Book #1, 1882-1913, pg 47, line 6  
HOMER, FRED L. b. West Salem Tp, Mercer Co, PA, 28 Aug 1865 & d. 31 Jan 1903, interred 7 Feb 1903 in Section G Lot 119. Son of Josiah & Sarah C Homer. Joseph Homer was the informant for the burial permit.

**See more Homer memorials in:**

- Shenango Valley Cemetery
- Greenville
- Mercer County
- Pennsylvania
- USA
- Find a Grave

[Flower Delivery](#)

[Sponsor and Remove Ads](#)

[Explore more](#)

**Family Members**

**Parents**

-  **Josiah Lane Homer**  
1821-1907
-  **Sarah Catherine Walker Homer**  
1829-1906

**Siblings**

-  **Frank Edward Homer**  
1854-1937
-  **Joseph H Homer**  
1859-1933

## Using FindAGrave for clues



**Jennie W *Stinson* Homer**

11 Jul 1867 – 6 Jan 1917

Plot info: **Section G Lot 119**



**Joseph H Homer**

1859 – 19 May 1933

Plot info: **Section H Lot 68**



**Josiah Lane Homer** ✿

26 Jul 1821 – 23 Apr 1907

Plot info: **Section H Lot 68**



**Mary Jane *Wier* Homer**

1834 – 1874

Plot info: **Section A Lot 195**



**Mary L *Bright* Homer**

1875 – 29 Mar 1929

Plot info: **Section C Lot 89**

## Other Homer's in Shenango Valley Cemetery

# Passenger Lists

# Federal Requirements

- Steerage Act of 1819
  - Required ship captains to report names, ages, sex, and occupations of passengers to U.S. Customs
- Carriage of Passengers Act of 1855
  - Repealed the Act of 1819
  - Continued the passenger list obligation, but also required that the part of the vessel in which the passenger traveled be reported
- Immigration Acts of 1891 and 1893
  - Expanded requirements for passenger information

# Port of Philadelphia

- Low volume compared to New York City
- Pre-1820
  - Michael Tepper, ed., *Passenger Arrivals at the Port of Philadelphia, 1800-1819* (Baltimore : Genealogical Pub. Co., 1986)
- 1820 forward – National Archives Microfilm Publications
  - M425 – *Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Philadelphia 1800-1882*
  - T840 - *Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1883–December 31, 1945*

# Online Access to Lists

- FamilySearch.org:
  - *Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Passenger Lists, 1800-1882* – corresponds to NARA publication M425
  - *Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Passenger Lists, 1883-1945* – corresponds to NARA publication T840
- Ancestry.com:
  - *Pennsylvania, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists, 1798-1962* – corresponds to NARA publications M425 and T840
  - *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S., Passenger and Immigration Lists, 1800-1850* - from M425

[List 131 C] At the Court House at Philadelphia, Thursday, the 14<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1749.

Present: Benj<sup>m</sup> Shoemaker, } Esquires.  
Joshua Maddox, }

The Foreigners whose Names are underwritten, imported in the Ship Two Brothers, Thomas Arnot, Master, from Rotterdam, & last from Cowes in England, did this day take & subscribe the usual Oaths to the Government. By List 105. 312 Persons, from the Electorate Palatine & Triers.

Johann Gerhard Schneyder	Johan Peter (X) Shneyder
Weigand Schneider	Christian (X) Humbold
Johann Deis Schneider	Jacob Gruber
Johannes Petter Schneyder	Wilhelmus Jacobus Gruber

Handwritten list of names in cursive script, including: Simon Joller, Johann Filibub, Johann Casp. Blaceman, Johann Venus Baker, Johann Balthasar Schmit, Henry Weller, Simonius Johann Schmidt, Johan Balthasar Schmit, Johann Spiet Klein, Johann Peter Schmitgen, Johann Martin Schmitgen, Johann Adam Schmitgen, Johann Ludwig Spiess, Johann Wilhelm Mallert, Johann Mardin Gress, Johannes Ernst Gress, Mattheas (X) Trawn, Johannes Cobus Hoffman, Wilhelm Kusche [?], Johannes Böhmer, Ernst Schäffer, Wilhelmus Dietz, Johannes Petter Jung, Johan Adam (X) Jung, Matheas (O) Baker, Johann Philippus Becker, Johan Adam Becker, Johann Christ Badenhainer, Johann Peter Aller, Johan Petter Braun, Johann Petter Hess, Christian Steltz, Johan Jacob Carl, Johannes Diewes, Johan Georg Schultz, Johannes Petter Du[...], Bastian Braun, Johan Dnis Dauschman, Johan (X) Säger, Johann Jacob Homer, Willhelm (X) Helt, Johan D. B., Johan Christ Rüb.

Two Brothers 1749

Johan Konrath Refi	Johan (X) Venusbaker
Teys (X) Refy	Johann Balthasar Schiedt
Adam Hennrich Prentz	Henry (X) Weller
Johannes Hermanus	Friederich Gottfried Schmidt
Michael (X) Reyffener	Johan Balthasar (X) Shmit
Petter Reiffner	Johann Christ Klein
Henry (XX) Wagner	Johan Peder Schönman
Johan Henry (X) Wagner	Johan Christoph Ullrich
Petter Amms [?]	Johan Martin Schmitgen
Philibbus Löhr	Johan Adam Schmitgen
Hans Peter (X) Lehr	Johann Ludwig Spiess
Johannes Oseler	Johann Wilhelm Mallert
Joh. Jost Blecher	Johann Mardin Gress
Johan Peter (X) Miller	Johannes Ernst Gress
Johann Herman Niss	Mattheas (X) Trawn
Johan Jost Fiessler	Johannes Cobus Hoffman
Johann Peter Holpasch	Wilhelm Kusche [?]
Johan Haubrich Löhr	Johannes Böhmer
Johan Peter (H) Lay	Ernst Schäffer
Johann Christ. Böhmer	Wilhelmus Dietz
Johann Peter Böhmer	Johannes Petter Jung
Christian (X) Birkingbey	Johan Adam (X) Jung
Johan Albert Stecker	Matheas (O) Baker
Wilhelmus Strickhauschen	Johann Philippus Becker
Jacob Cambeck	Johan Adam Becker
Johan Jost (S) Schäffer	Johann Christ Badenhainer
Wilhelm Pfeiffer	Johann Peter Aller
Johannes Henrich Hoffman	Johan Petter Braun
Johann Henrich Fuchs	Johann Petter Hess
Johannes Henrich Schmit	Christian Steltz
Johan Adam Fucks	Johan Jacob Carl
Johan (X) Beisbeker	Johannes Diewes
George Jacob (X) Wird	Johan Georg Schultz
Christian Matheis Göbeler	Johanes Petter Du[...]
Johan Henrich Keuler	Bastian Braun
Johan Phillippus Sauer	Johan Dnis Dauschman
Johan Peter Lupp	Johan (X) Säger
Petter Humrich	Johann Jacob Homer
Simon Höller	Willhelm (X) Helt
Johan Filibus Le[...]	Johan D. B.
Johannes Ernst Krämer	Johan Christ Rüb

Johan (X) Säger  
Johann Jacob Homer  
Willhelm (X) Helt

## Pre-1820 Pennsylvania passenger lists

Printed and sold by Clark and Raser, 60 Dock Street, Philadelphia.

**Report or Manifest** of all the Passengers taken on board the *Baque Cuyk*  
 whereof *James Allen* is Master, from *Londonderry* burthen  
*388* Tons and owned by  
 of and bound to *Philadelphia*

No.	NAME	AGE.	SEX.	OCCUPATION.	To what Country belong.	Country of which it is their intention to become Inhabitants.	Number and Names of Passengers who have died on the Voyage.
1.	James Shupe	27	Male	Carpenter	Ireland	United States	
2.	Rebecca do	24	Female	Spinster	do	do	
3.	Harriet Gloss	21	"	do	do	do	
4.	Eliza Mayce	23	"	do	do	do	
5.	Elyse Humphill	25	"	do	do	do	
6.	James Morris	1	Child	Child	do	do	
7.	Cath. Gallagher	25	Female	Spinster	do	do	
8.	Bridget do	20	"	do	do	do	
9.	James Morvill	21	Male	Black	do	do	
10.	Anniah Peery	45	Female	Spinster	do	do	
11.	James do	20	Male	Laborer	do	do	
12.	Arch. do	18	do	do	do	do	
13.	Ann do	22	Female	Spinster	do	do	
14.	Anniah do	17	do	do	do	do	
15.	James Picken	21	Male	Laborer	do	do	
16.	Isaac Moore	14	do	Laborer	do	do	
17.	William Twenty	15	do	do	do	do	
18.	Ann Alexander	20	Female	Spinster	do	do	
19.	Elmy Montgomery	15	do	do	do	do	
20.	Thomas Hill	20	Male	Laborer	do	do	
21.	Hugh Brown	18	do	do	do	do	
22.	Fanny ditto	35	Female	Spinster	do	do	
23.	Aspin. Henry	10	Youth	boy	do	do	
24.	Eliza Cashley	25	Female	Spinster	do	do	
25.	James Gallagher	52	Male	do	do	do	
26.	Bridget Gallagher	50	Female	Spinster	do	do	
27.	Joseph Strenger	40	Male	Laborer	do	do	
28.	Marion do	30	Female	Spinster	do	do	
29.	Francis do	18	Male	Laborer	do	do	

# Philadelphia passenger list 1835

FamilySearch.org, "Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Passenger Lists, 1800-1882"

# Access to Archival Databases (ADD)

- National Archives
  - Created by the Center for Immigration Research at the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies

Database	Number of Records
Immigration of Russians to the United States – 1834-1897	566,865
Immigration of Germans to the United States – 1850-1897	4,108,378
Immigration of Italians to the United States – 1855-1900	884,839

# Additional Search Fields

## Show More Fields

**File unit:** Italians to America Passenger Data File, 1855 - 1900

**in the Series:** Data Files Relating to the Immigration of Italians to the United States, created ca. 1977 - 2002, documenting the period 1855 - 1900. - *Collection CIR* ([info](#)).

Default Fields

Submit

Select	Field Title	Code List	Notes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Last Name		<a href="#">View</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	First Name		<a href="#">View</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Age	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">View</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex	<a href="#">View</a>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation	<a href="#">View</a>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Literacy	<a href="#">View</a>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Country of Origin	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">View</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	City/Town of Last Residence		<a href="#">View</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Destination City/Country		<a href="#">View</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transit and/or Travel Compartment	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">View</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Manifest Identification Number		<a href="#">View</a>

Default Fields

Submit

View Record	Last Name	First Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Country of Origin	City/Town of Last Residence	Destination City/Country	Manifest Identification Number
	GRUBER	JOSEPH	age 33	MALE	UNKNOWN	GERMANY	UNKNOWN	PITTSBURG	15184
	GRUBER	MARIA	age 23	FEMALE	UNKNOWN	GERMANY	UNKNOWN	PITTSBURG	15184
	GRUBER	THERESE	age 03	FEMALE	CHILD, YOUNGSTER	GERMANY	UNKNOWN	PITTSBURG	15184
	GRUBER	BALT.	age 19	MALE	LABORER	GERMANY	COLOGNE	PITTSBURG	40129
	GRUBER	KATHIE	age 40	FEMALE	UNKNOWN	GERMANY	DETROIT	PITTSBURG	44294
	GRUBER	ALFRED	age 16	MALE	BUTCHER	GERMANY	WOLFERSHOF	PITTSBURG	60046
	GRUBER	JOHANN	age 30	MALE	MILLER	BAVARIA	U	PHILADELPHIA	8676
	GRUBER	BARBARA	age 57	FEMALE	FARMER	PALATINATE	U	PHILADELPHIA	10496
	GRUBER	CAR.	age 21	FEMALE	SERVANT, GENTLEMAN'S SERVANT	GERMANY	U	PHILADELPHIA	37441
	GRUBER	GODOHARD	age 23	MALE	MERCHANT	HAMBURG	U	PHILADELPHIA	40596

## ADD – Germans to America

# Naturalization

- Multi-step process generates paper
  - Declaration of intent
  - Petition
  - Final Oath and Certificate
- Early records contain less information; pre-1890 may only refer to country of birth
- Amount of information captured varies by state and court

# Typical Data on Forms

## Declaration

- Name
- Date of intention
- Date of document
- Place of birth
- Port of entry
- Date of entry
- Signature

## Petition

- Name
- Current residence
- Occupation
- Place of birth
- Date of birth or age
- Port of entry
- Date of entry

State of Pennsylvania,  
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY ss.

**Be it Remembered,** THAT on this *Fifth*  
day of *October* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and  
forty *six* before me, the Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of  
Philadelphia, personally appeared

who being duly *Sworn* *David Hamilton* according to law, upon his solemn *Oath*  
did declare, depose and say, that he is a Native of *Ireland*  
now residing in the *County* of Philadelphia, aged *twenty five*  
years, or thereabouts, and that it is *bona fide* his intention to become a Citizen of the United  
States, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate,  
State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to the *Queen of Great*  
*Britain & Ireland*  
of whom he is now a Subject.

**In witness whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed  
the Seal of said Court, this *fifth* day of *October*  
in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty *six*

*John J. S. Douglass* *pro* Prothonotary.

## 1846 Declaration of Intent

TO THE HONORABLE JOHN K. KANE,

The Petition of David Hamilton

A NATIVE of Ireland

Respectfully Sheweth,

That he declared on oath before the Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas for the City & County of Philadelphia

on the fifth day of October A. D. 1846 that it was bona fide his intention to become a Citizen of the United States, and of renouncing forever all allegiance and fidelity to any Foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to the Queen Great Britain & Ireland

of whom he was at that time a subject. That your petitioner has resided within the United States upwards of five years, and one year in the State of Pennsylvania last past, immediately preceding this his application to become a Citizen of the United States.

That he has never borne any hereditary title or been of any of the orders of nobility in his own or any other country.

He therefore prays, that on his making the proof, and taking the oath prescribed by law, he may be admitted a Citizen of the United States of America.

And he will ever pray, &c.

James Armstrong a Citizen of the United States of America, being duly sworn according to law, saith, that he knows and is well acquainted with David Hamilton the petitioner; that to his knowledge he has resided in the United States five years, and one year last past in the State of Pennsylvania, immediately preceding his application to be a Citizen; that during the said period he has behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of our Constitution, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same.

Sworn in open Court,

Thomas S. Kane, Clerk District Court U. S.

I, David Hamilton do swear, that the contents of my petition are true; that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and I now renounce and relinquish any title or order of nobility to which I am now, or hereafter may be entitled, and I do absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any Foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to the Queen of Great Britain & Ireland of whom I was before a subject,

Sworn in open Court, this fifth day of October A. D. 1846

Thomas S. Kane, Clerk District Court U. S.

# 1846 Petition & 1848 Oath

# Finding Naturalizations

- Family Search
  - Immigrants filed in a variety of city, county, state, or federal courts, but most often in a county court
  - Check the catalog for the county
- Ancestry (\$)
  - Pennsylvania, U.S., Federal Naturalization Records, 1795-1931
  - Pennsylvania, U.S., Naturalization Records from Supreme and District Courts, 1794-1908

# Newspapers

# Newspapers

- *The American Weekly Mercury* (1719) and the *Pennsylvania Gazette* (1728) were Pennsylvania's first newspapers
- Growth of newspapers exploded in the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Many online repositories
  - Library of Congress – Chronicling America
  - Newspapers.com (\$)
  - Genealogybank.com (\$)

# Free Online Sites

- Pennsylvania Newspaper Archive
- Pennsylvania Civil War Era Newspapers
- State Library of Pennsylvania
- Ancestor Hunt
- Elephind
- Google News Newspaper Archive
- Library of Congress – Chronicling America (1789-1963)

# Pennsylvania Newspaper Archive Significant historical Pennsylvania newspapers

Home

Browse by Title

Browse by Date

Help

About

All Cities ▼

search words

 Search

Advanced Search

## All Titles

Browse by Title

<span>↑</span> Title	<span>↑</span> City	<span>▼</span> County	Browse Issues	<span>↑</span> No. of Issues	<span>↑</span> Earliest Issue	<span>↑</span> Latest Issue
<a href="#">The compiler.</a>	Gettysburg	<a href="#">Adams</a>		470	<a href="#">1857-05-18</a>	<a href="#">1866-05-21</a>
<a href="#">Gettysburg compiler.</a>	Gettysburg	<a href="#">Adams</a>		135	<a href="#">1866-05-28</a>	<a href="#">1868-12-25</a>
<a href="#">The Republican compiler.</a>	Gettysburg	<a href="#">Adams</a>		140	<a href="#">1854-09-11</a>	<a href="#">1857-05-11</a>
<a href="#">Star and banner.</a>	Gettysburg	<a href="#">Adams</a>		516	<a href="#">1847-05-28</a>	<a href="#">1857-05-08</a>
<a href="#">The Star and Republican banner.</a>	Gettysburg	<a href="#">Adams</a>		465	<a href="#">1834-12-23</a>	<a href="#">1847-05-21</a>
<a href="#">The star and sentinel.</a>	Gettysburg	<a href="#">Adams</a>		197	<a href="#">1867-05-29</a>	<a href="#">1871-03-17</a>
<a href="#">The star, and Adams County Republican banner.</a>	Gettysburg	<a href="#">Adams</a>		27	<a href="#">1831-10-04</a>	<a href="#">1832-04-03</a>
<a href="#">The star.</a>	Gettysburg	<a href="#">Adams</a>		31	<a href="#">1831-02-28</a>	<a href="#">1831-09-27</a>
<a href="#">The daily morning post.</a>	Pittsburgh	<a href="#">Allegheny</a>		2414	<a href="#">1846-09-17</a>	<a href="#">1855-11-24</a>
<a href="#">Daily morning post.</a>	Pittsburgh	<a href="#">Allegheny</a>		271	<a href="#">1842-09-10</a>	<a href="#">1843-07-28</a>

## County sort for PA Newspaper Archive



## DIGITAL NEWSPAPERS

[The Daily Collegian \(historical\)](#)

[Behrend Beacon](#)

[Penn State Harrisburg's Student Newspapers](#)

[Hazleton Collegian Newspaper \(historic\)](#)

[Centre Daily Times Obituary Index](#)

[Lancaster Farming](#)

[Pennsylvania Civil War Era Newspaper Collection](#)

[Pennsylvania Newspaper Projects, 1983-2016](#)

[Pennsylvania Newspaper Archive](#)

# Pennsylvania Civil War Era Newspaper Collection

## About the Collection

Pennsylvania Civil War Era Newspaper Collection contain all the words, photographs, and advertisements from selected newspapers published during the pivotal years before, during, and after the U.S. Civil War. Newspapers played a prominent role in the conflict. They helped mobilize public opinion for, or against, the war, relayed battlefield developments to their readers, and documented political life on the homefront. Beyond military or political concerns there is much on cultural topics including travel, arts and leisure, sports and contests, and local social events.



### NOTE about Gaps:

Where there are gaps noted please refer to the Browse Archive to determine the exact lapses in holdings.

### NOTE about Titles:

In some instances variant titles are listed under one main title.

### Altoona

- [Altoona Tribune](#) - 2/4/1858 - 3/11/1865

# PennState Civil War Collection

<p><b>BATTLES OF GETTYSBURG.</b></p> <p>Our usually quiet and unpretending little town of Gettysburg has become historic. During the last two weeks scenes have been enacted here that beggar all description. War has been raging all around us in its most horrid form.</p> <p>Two mighty armies have passed through our county and the bloodiest fight of the war has taken place in our midst.</p> <p>For some time past it has been evident that a great battle must come off in our State, and perhaps in or near our county, but no one supposed that Gettysburg would be the place selected.</p> <p>On Sunday week our advance got here and began scouring the country.</p> <p>On Monday Hill's Division of the Rebel Army, was reported near Cashtown and on Tuesday morning their pickets made their appearance on "Seminary Ridge," but as soon as they got sight of our Cavalry force they went back several miles toward Cashtown. During Tuesday our Cavalry force continued to scour the country and at night about 8,000 of them encamped North West of the town under the command of Gen. Buford.</p> <p>This was the evening before the great battle commenced and as nearly as could be ascertained the disposition of the two opposing forces then was as follows:</p> <p>Four of our Army Corps were between this and Emmitsburg—the nearest one at least five miles from Gettysburg—the remainder of our Army was some distance in the rear of these four Corps. On the Rebel side Hill's Corps was on Marsh Creek, between this and Cashtown, Longstreet's Corps, was encamped about 8 miles in Hill's rear—and Ewell was at Heidlersburg, 10 miles from Gettysburg.</p>	<p><b>THE BATTLES AT GETTYSBURG.</b></p> <p>Scenes and Incidents.</p> <p>We find in the letters of army correspondents, writing from Gettysburg, many interesting and touching scenes and incidents of the late terrible battles:</p> <p><b>THE LOSSES.</b></p> <p>The Eleventh corps lost in killed, wounded and missing, 4,060 men. The corps' loss foots up nearly 6,000.</p> <p>Twelfth corps lost, in killed and wounded, 973, missing, 242; 17 officers killed, as would be. One regiment, the 2d Massachusetts, in Slocum's corps, lost 11 officers in a charge, yet when this division was pulsed, the regiment fell back in proper order and each soldier in his place.</p> <p>Sharpshooting has become a serious vice in battle. Three hundred men of our brigade were shot in the rifle-pit Friday by a half dozen of the best sharpshooters concealed in a brick lot in the suburbs of Gettysburg. The lot might have been destroyed, but in doing this many others in the town would have been damaged: it is a question, however, whether the whole town is worth the cost to save it.</p> <p>The 2d brigade of the 3d division, 4th corps, numbering 2,500 men, lost half numbers in battle, and the 2d brigade of the same corps, in the charge of the enemy on Friday evening captured from the enemy double our own number in prisoners, including Armistead and five battle flags, all 35 pieces of the second corps' batteries.</p> <p>The losses in the Philadelphia brigade, in officers killed and wounded 45, enlisted men 482. Among the wounded officers is Col. Baxter, of the seventy Regiment, and among the killed is the late Col. O'Kane, of the Eighty-third Pennsylvania Regiment.</p> <p>In the battle of July 3, the old Galil the 6th (Irish) and the Fire Zouaves (Ireland) troops were in action. The California regiment lost nine officers and fifteen taken in, and one hundred and</p>	<p>will ever have the distinction of breaking the pride and power of the rebel invasion.</p>	<p><b>LOCAL DEPARTMENT.</b></p>	<p><b>GETTYSBURG DURING THE FIGHT.</b></p> <p>Poor little Gettysburg was sadly frightened before last, that the town in town were in order to drive, who had taken were plucking off, sons left town, go as a motto we were for three, were flying, Robe had possible pillaging our longt our citizens considered, VIRGINIA WADE, sed by a shot quite a numberd by stray wore Mr. R. F. and Mr. Leh, to be thank, little injury to der. THE POTOMAC, Y 4th, 1863. 5, in behalf of ty of the Po of the recent numbers and successful inva and destroy and defeated.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BATTLES OF GETTYSBURG.</b></p> <p>Our usually quiet and unpretending little town of Gettysburg has become historic. During the last two weeks scenes have been enacted here that beggar all description. War has been raging all around us in its most horrid form.</p> <p>Two mighty armies have passed through our county and the bloodiest fight of the war has taken place in our midst.</p> <p>For some time past it has been evident that a great battle must come off in our State, and perhaps in or near our county, but no one supposed that Gettysburg would be the place selected.</p> <p>On Sunday week our advance got here and began scouring the country.</p>				

Gettysburg Compiler, 13 Jul 1863

# Military

# 19th-Century Wars

- War of 1812 (1812-1815)
- Mexican-American War (1846 to 1848)
- Civil War (1861-1865)
- Spanish American War (1898)

# War of 1812

- Muster Rolls – Pennsylvania State Archives
- Service Records – NARA only – not online
  - Index available at FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com
- Pensions
  - Index at FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com
  - Files at Fold3.com
- Bounty Land
  - Warrants
    - Family Search, Ancestry (\$), Fold3
  - For land in Michigan, Illinois, Arkansas, Missouri

WAR OF 1812-1814. 457

MUSTER ROLL OF CAPT. WM. ALEXANDER'S COMPANY  
OF VOLUNTEERS BELONGING TO THE 5TH DETACH-  
MENT PENNSYLVANIA MILITIA UNDER THE COM-  
MAND OF COL. JAMES FENTON AT CARLISLE.

---

Capt.  
William Alexander.

Lieut.  
Lindsey Spotswood.

Ensign.  
William Right.

Seargents  
1st. James H. Hutton.  
2d. John L. Hayes.  
3rd. William Alexander.  
4th. Francis McManus.

Corporals.  
1st. Frederick Bowyer.  
2d. John Wyncoop.  
3rd. Christian Hoffman.  
4th. James Spotwood.

Musicians.  
Edward Johnston.  
George Stine.  
James Barclay.

Privates.

Samuel Armor. Edward Armor. John Armor. James Armstrong. William Alexander. Conrad Bollinder. Isaac Bell. William Bullock. James Boyd. Joseph Brown. John Butler. Joseph Borland.	William Biggs. Samuel Brumbaugh. William Craver. Elisha Doyle. James Dawson. John Davidson. Daniel Dowling. Andrew Ellison. Andrew Eaken. Enoch Fagon. Charles Fagon. John Faulke.
--	---

WAR OF 1812		BOUNTY LAND
NUMBERS	SOLDIER HOMMER, JOHN	
		44579 160 55
	WIDOW HOMMER, CATHARINE	
WO 8894		
WC 14514	SERVICE PVT CAPT ROBERT MANN'S CO PA MIL	
ENLISTED JAN 1 1814		DISCHARGED FEB 6 1814
RESIDENCE OF SOLDIER	REMARKS	
1855 MERCER CO PA		
RESIDENCE OF WIDOW		
1872 MERCER CO (PO NEW HAMBURG) PA		
1878 FREDONIA MERCER CO PA		
MAIDEN NAME OF WIDOW		
CATHARINE HESH		
MARRIAGE OF SOLDIER AND WIDOW		
AUG 12 1807 FREDERICK CO MD		
DEATH OF SOLDIER		
SEPT 10 1847 MERCER CO PA		
DEATH OF WIDOW		

# War of 1812 documents

# Civil War

- Draft Registration
  - Ancestry (\$)
- Muster Rolls and Rosters
  - FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com (\$)
  - Pennsylvania Volunteers of the Civil War
  - Army Registers of Enlistment (Ancestry \$)
- Service Records
  - FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com (\$)
- Pensions
  - Indexes at FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com (\$)
  - Some records at Fold3.com (\$)

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## REGISTER OF ENLISTMENTS,

NO.	NAMES.	ENLISTED.				WHERE BORN.		AGE.	OCCUPATION.	DESCRIPTION.			
		When.	Where.	By Whom.	Period.	Town or County.	State.			Eyes.	Hair.	Complex'n.	HEIGHT. Feet. Inchs.
1	Kiefer	1865	Harisburg Pa.	Cpt Asher	By	Harisburg	Penn.	19	Machineist	Grey	Str	Fair	5 5
2	Stearns	James	11 Boston	Major	Mc	Boston	Mass.	18	Soldier	Blue		Dark	6
3	Kraus	Charles	3 New York	By	Leiding	Ureima	Austria	25		Grey	Str		7 1/2
4	Scott	Curue	7			Naion	Ireland	26	Market	Blue	Str	Dark	7 1/2
5	Ferr	Williams	12			Stiga		23	Cabinet	Grey	Str	Dark	11
6	Kiefer	Robert	27	Cleveland	By	Buffalo	N. Y.	35	Shoemaker	Blue			5 1/2
7	Kingsley	Frank	16	Fort	By	New York		28	Telegraph	Dark	Dark	Swady	5 1/2
8	Kelly	Luke	19	New York	By	Irishman	Ireland	28	Laborer	Blue	Str	Fair	6
9	Kiddel	Williams	16	Pa.	By	Pa.	Penn.	22	Moulder	Grey			4 1/2

## UNITED STATES ARMY.

No. of enlist.	REGIMENT.	CO.	REMARKS.
13	Inf.	6.	Dischd. Sept. 15. 65.
24	Inf.	6.	Dischd. Oct. 26. 67. appd. Nov. 2. 67. Dischgd. July 29. 68. began serv. at Baton Rouge La. a Pvt.
3	Can.	6.	Dischgd. July 5. 65. began serv. at Fort Union, N. M. a Corp.
3	Can.	6.	Dischd. Aug. 23. 65.
3	Can.	9.	Killed July 9. 64. by Indians n. Fort Sumner, N. M. a Pvt. U.S. a. S. a. S. a. S.
14	Inf.	6.	Dischgd. July 29. 61. began serv. at Camp Graham, S. I. a. Pvt.
14	Inf.	6.	Dischd. July 22. 65.
14	Inf.	6.	Dischd. July 65. in D. L. of Ark.
14	Inf.	6.	Dischgd. July 6. 61. began serv. at Camp C. I. Smith, C. I. a. Pvt.
14	Inf.	6.	Dischd. Dec. 20. 65.

### Sample Civil War Period Enlistment

Ancestry.com, U.S., Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914

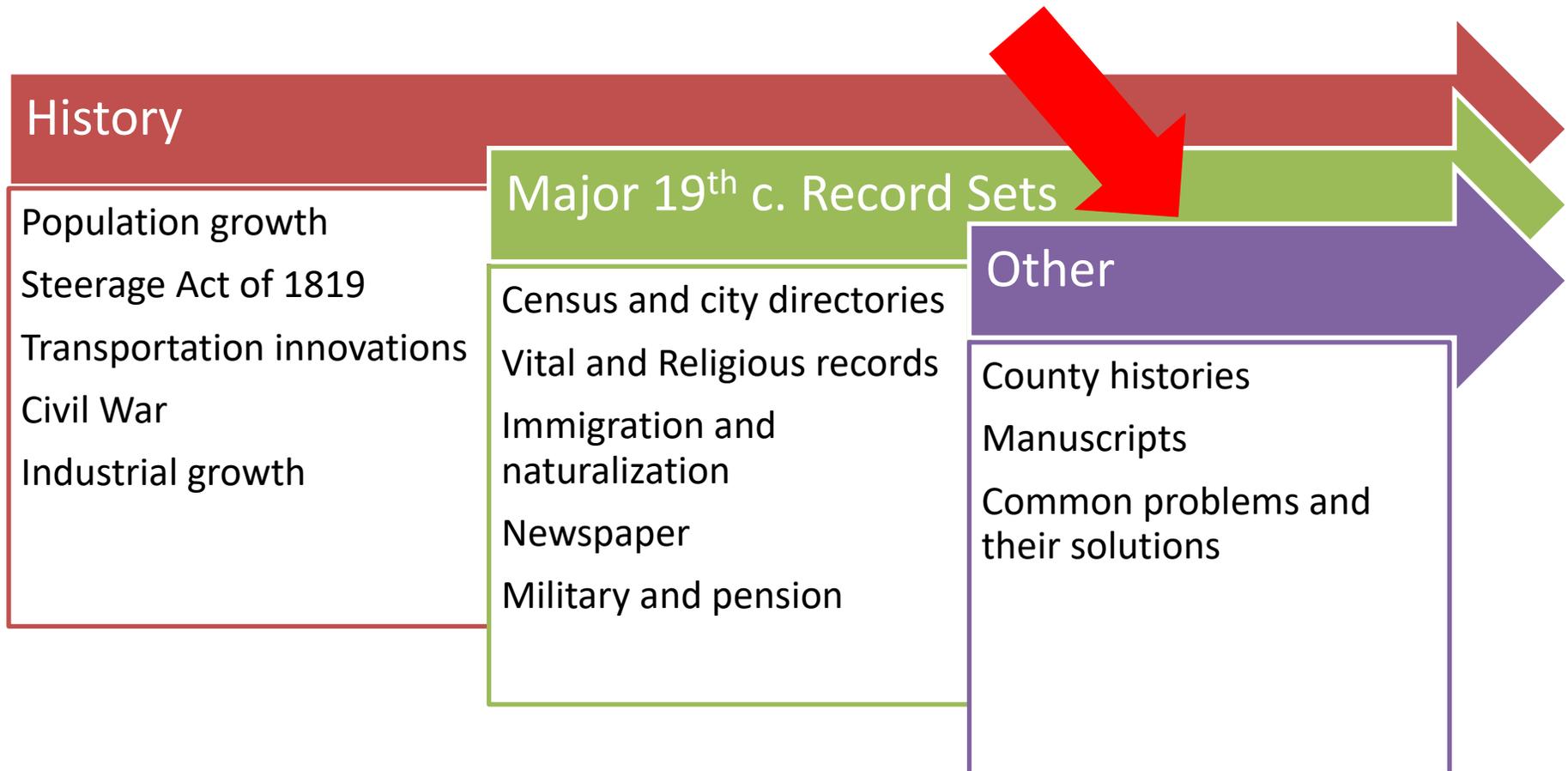
# Mexican and Spanish Wars

- Mexican War caused by annexation of Texas in 1845
  - 1846-1848
  - Indexes online; actual pension records at National Archives
- Spanish American War
  - 1898
  - Indexes online; files at National Archives



# QUESTIONS?

# Session Roadmap



# Value of County and Town Histories

- Details of the early settlement of a county
  - Names of first settlers
  - Names of first churches
  - Descriptions of economic growth
- Information often not found elsewhere
- Included biographical data serves as excellent finding aids for ancestors

# HISTORY of MERCER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

ITS PAST AND PRESENT.

INCLUDING

**THE HOMMER FAMILY.**—Jacob Hommer, a native of Germany, and a Revolutionary soldier, was one of the early settlers of West Salem Township. He grew up in Maryland, and was twice married. His first wife was Mary Siler, who bore him three sons and four daughters: John, Joseph, Jacob, Polly, Lena, Susan and Elizabeth. The mother died in Maryland, and he married Mrs. Hannah (Booth) Schaffer, and with two sons, John and Jacob, and his four daughters, by his first marriage, immigrated to Mercer County in 1809 (Joseph remaining in Maryland), where he purchased and settled on a tract of land partly lying within the present limits of Greenville. Two daughters, Hannah and Rachel, were born of his second marriage. His cabin stood on the west side, where Samuel West now lives. The parents both spent the balance of their lives on this farm, upon which they were interred. John, the eldest son, married Catharine Harsh, in Maryland, and after coming to Mercer located at the Big Bend, in Delaware Township, where his father purchased him 100 acres. He died there, and his sons still live on the old homestead.

1878. They reared eight children: Samuel, Abraham K., John, Maria, Lina, Marvin, Madison and Ann, all residents of the county except Samuel, who lives in Michigan. Abraham K. was reared in his native township, and married June 10, 1836, Mrs. Sarah Smith, see Lawton, a native of Yorkshire, England, who has borne him five children: Solas, Catharine (wife of Ostar Brockway), Peter, Daniel and Anna S., all living. Politically Mr. Harst is a staunch Democrat, and one of the oldest native residents of the township.

JACOB HASENPLUG, farmer, post-office Greenville, was born in Centre County, Penn., October 20, 1830. His grandfather, Henry Haseuplug, emigrated from Germany to America during the Revolution, and after the war married a Miss Siebold, of Union County, Penn. His father, Jacob Haseuplug, was born in Union County July 16, 1790, there grew up and married Annis Lichty, a native of the same county. They afterward removed to Centre County, where Jacob operated a tannery and brewery. In the fall of 1834 they removed to West Salem Township, Mercer County, and reared six children: George E., deceased; Elizabeth, wife of Jonathan Showers; Jacob; Maria, widow of William Dillon; John H. and Daniel. They settled in the forests of West Salem, in a hewed log house which Mr. Haseuplug erected after coming.

The mother died in 1821, and her venerable husband, at the same old age, called her to him. They were buried in the same grave. Her name was Mary Siler, and she was born in 1765. She was the daughter of John Siler, and she was married to Jacob Hommer in 1809. She died in 1821, and she was buried in the same grave as her husband. Her name was Mary Siler, and she was born in 1765. She was the daughter of John Siler, and she was married to Jacob Hommer in 1809. She died in 1821, and she was buried in the same grave as her husband.

Joseph, the second son, was born in Maryland May 15, 1791, there learned the shoemaker's trade, and came to West Salem Township about two years after the rest of the family. He married Magdalena Everhart, who was born

County Histories

# Manuscripts

# Finding Genealogical Events in a Manuscript

- Obvious sources
  - Bible records
  - Cemetery records
  - Church or Minister's records
- Less obvious sources
  - Letters and diaries
  - Account books
  - Town records
  - Created by individuals, families, and businesses

18 Cold and windy  
19 Cleaned stables, helped dig grave for Sarah, wife of Jacob Moyer  
at Hilltown  
20 Rainy all day Sarah Moyer's funeral Stopped at H. Shelly this p.m.  
21 Made cider and hauled wood  
22 Cleaned stables in a.m. At J. Beidler's sale this p.m.  
23 Sunday At home all day Our folks at Krabill this p.m.  
25 W. Rice here this a.m., made a rick of corn fodder, hauled 2 loads  
of fodder  
26 Cleared one field, hauled home small corn and this a.m. father  
finished husking corn Took wagon to blacksmith shop this p.m.  
27 J. Umstead and I fetched 2 cows up country this a.m. At L. Jacob's  
sale this p.m.  
28 Pressed cider and took wheat to mill  
29 Cut feed At Nace's cow sale in p.m.  
30 Sunday Sophie and I to meeting at Hilltown At H. Derstine for  
dinner  
31 At blacksmith this a.m. Got ready for market H.B.R. here

## Kratz diary October 1870

Brought from page 12

81 Dr William Flynn Cr

1845	Account out for ware	11 7 77	
July 18	1 pr Shoes 7/6	1 50	
"	1 pr Ga Stock Cl 1/2	13	
"	1 Doy Hook & Eye	17	
"	1 pair Mill Bushes	2 43	
"	1 lb Tea 7/6	50	
19	1/4 yd Bismarck 7/6	11	
"	1 Doy Hook & Eye	17	
"	3 lb Dry Apples 7/6	1 50	
24	1 lb Holding 7/6	50	
Aug 1	1 Satten best Button	2 00	
"	1 Doy Button	14	
"	3 yds Bismarck 1/2	30	
"	4 yd Slat 1/2	25	
"	1 best Satten	90	
5	1/2 Duth Brand	1 50	
16	1 lb Shoes 7/6	75	
25	Hudson Wagon		
	to Machias	41 00	
29	1 Bismarck 7/6	35	
Sept 14	5 lb Nail 5/6	40	
"	5 lb Nail 5/6	40	
25	1/4 yd Bismarck 7/6	1 25	
Oct 4	1/2 yd Pick out 7/6	25	
10	11 yds Sheeting	1 54	
16	3 1/2 yds Flannel 1/2	1 92	
22	2 1/2 yds Satten 1/2 90	2 25	
"	1 Doy Button	18	
Nov 5	1 1/2 lb Pork 1/2	1 45	
7	1 lb Flour	9 00	
11	2 lb Satten 1/2 90	25	
"	1 Razor 1/2	1 00	
17	3 yds Flannel 7/6	1 50	
"	1 lb Ginger 1/2	25	
19	1 lb Boots 7/6	1 75	
	to Machias July 2, 1845	45	
1846	Mar 16	5 lb Raisin 7/6	50
	30	2 1/2 yds Bra Cloth 1/2 90	10 63
May 7	4 lb Tea 7/6	1 50	
"	1 lb Tea 7/6	25	

Oct 4	1/2 yd Pick out 7/6	25
10	11 yds Sheeting	1 54
16	3 1/2 yds Flannel 1/2	1 92
22	2 1/2 yds Satten 1/2 90	2 25
"	1 Doy Button	18
Nov 5	1 1/2 lb Pork 1/2	1 45
7	1 lb Flour	9 00
11	2 lb Satten 1/2 90	25
"	1 Razor 1/2	1 00
17	3 yds Flannel 7/6	1 50

# Account book - 1845

# Finding Manuscripts

- Local historical societies
  - Statewide
    - Historical Society of Pennsylvania
    - State Library of Pennsylvania
  - County
- Libraries
- Archive Grid

## The Manuscript Groups

### MG-1. APPOINTMENTS AND COMMISSIONS COLLECTION, 1753-1904.

1 cu. ft.

A sampling of appointments to civil offices, both state and local, and military commissions under the national, state, and provincial government.

### MG-2. BUSINESS RECORDS COLLECTION, 1681-1963. 40 cu. ft.

1. Business records of Pennsylvania turnpike, canal, and railroad companies; iron forges and furnaces; etc., including the following:

Allegheny Portage Railroad; ledger, 1848-51, 1 vol.; journals, 1831-51, 3 vols.

Bear Creek Railroad Company and Shenango and Allegheny Railroad Company: cash book, 1865-77, 1 vol.; receipt book, 1866-69, 1 vol.

Berks County Railroad Company; share book, 1871, 1 vol.

Columbia and Philadelphia Railroad; account books, 1835-57, 4 vols.

Darby Township or Plank Road Company; minutes, 1850-63.

Harrisburg, Carlisle and Chambersburg Turnpike Road Company; ledgers, 1816-30, 2 vols.; day book, 1819-56, 1 vol.

Lancaster and Susquehanna Slackwater Navigation Company; accounts, 1848.

Lehigh Valley Railroad; ledgers, 1855-61, 2 vols.

Manheim and Lititz Turnpike Road Company; minute book, 1883-1924, 1 vol.

Midland Pennsylvania Railroad; blueprints, etc., n.d., 57 items.

Pennsylvania Canal (Johnstown to Pittsburgh Branch); account book, 1834, 1 vol.

Pennsylvania Petroleum Railroad Company; stock certificate receipt books, 1872-76, 2 vols.

Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike Road Company; certificate, 1795, 1 item.

Pioneer Packet Boat Company; journal, 1835-46, 1 vol.

Pittsburgh and New Alexandria Turnpike Road Company; minute book, 1827-48, 1 vol.

Reliance Transportation Company; ledger, 1834-37, 1 vol.; manifest book, 1835-37, 1 vol.

Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal Company (Weigh Lock at York Furnace); registers of boats, 1858-70, 2 vols.

United States Portable Boat Line; ledger, 1841, 1 vol.; manifest books, 1841, 2 vols.

Berkshire Furnace and Charming Forge; deed book, 1681-1854, 1 vol.; patent book, 1737-1805, 1 vol.; ledgers, 1748-1898, 25 vols.; journals, 1767-1815, 13 vols.; day book, 1855-72, 1 vol.; cash books, 1843-1902, 4 vols.

Elizabeth Furnace and Speedwell Forge; ledger, 1834-39, 1 vol.; day books, 1764, 1829-30, 3 vols.; cash book, 1835-36, 1 vol.

Juniata Forge and Mary Ann Furnace; note book, 1850, 1 vol.

Laurel Furnace; account book, 1804-12, 1 vol.

Lucinda Furnace; "Pig Iron Book," 1848-58, 1 vol.

Octoraro Forge and Conowingo Furnace; journal, 1833-35, 1843-51, 1 vol.; accounts, 1859-60.

Pennsylvania Furnace; time book, 1820-36, 1 vol.

Pine Forge Plantation; day book, 1838-41, 1 vol.

Robesonia Iron Company, Ltd.; ledger, 1898-1912, 1 vol.

Roxberry Furnace; accounts, 1760-62.

Saxton Furnace; ledger, 1900-05, 1 vol.; day book, 1900-05, 1 vol.; cash book, 1901-04, 1 vol.

Manuscripts at PA Archives

# Common Problems (and Solutions)

# Common Challenges

- Scarce vital records
- Distinguishing between people of the same name in the same community
- Flexible spelling
- Ancestral origins of immigrant

# General Considerations and Suggestions

- You may not find one “smoking-gun” record; you may need to build a case with multiple records
- Essential Strategy: Research the ancestors associates and neighbors (Cluster Research or FAN Club Research)
- Some records may be less reliable than others; seek originals if you can
- May need to have, and exhaust, several working theories

# Use Vital Records Substitutes

- Church and cemetery records
- Newspapers
- Military records
- Census
- City directories
- Family papers

# Strategy for Sorting Common Names

- What makes each person unique?
  - Dates of vital events
  - Names of wife and children
  - Specific plot of land occupied
- Timeline valuable in common names situations

# Flexible Spelling

- Consider how the name would have sounded
- Consider impact of regional accents
- Use wildcards when searching

# Finding Ancestral Origins

- Learn all you can about the immigrant
  - Spouse and children
  - Siblings
  - Associates
  - Neighbors
- Who traveled with them to America?

# Summary

- 19<sup>th</sup> century ushered in massive changes in transportation and industry
- 19<sup>th</sup> century record keeping continued 18<sup>th</sup> century records and introduced new sources such as federal passenger lists
- Unique Pennsylvania sources include the Septennial census and collections at Penn State and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

# QUESTIONS?

**Hire Research Services**

*research@nehgs.org*

**Chat with a Genealogist**

*AmericanAncestors.org/chat*

Search

Events

Membership

Give

Publications

Expert Help

Tools

Signature Projects

Centers &amp; Initiatives

# Pennsylvania Research: Four Centuries of History and Genealogy 2023

**Thank you for registering for the online course, *Pennsylvania Research: Four Centuries of History and Genealogy!***

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*This course includes four 90-minute classes; exclusive access to handouts and recordings of each presentation; and in-depth Q&A sessions with the instructors. These recordings and all course materials will be available for the foreseeable future.*

## JOIN THE LIVE SESSIONS

Click here to join the live broadcasts: <https://zoom.us/j/97803146029>

*If you are unable to attend the live sessions, you will be able to watch the recordings on this course page.*

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[AmericanAncestors.org/pennsylvania-research-four-centuries-history-and-genealogy-2023](https://AmericanAncestors.org/pennsylvania-research-four-centuries-history-and-genealogy-2023)



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