

THE MATERN FAMILY HISTORY

Comprising the Surnames of
MATERN, MATTERN, MOTTERN, MODDERN
and Variant Forms from
1650-1990

FIRST EDITION

Compiled and Edited by
AVICE MORGAN

From authentic public and private records, documents, parish records,
census, town and country files, vital statistics, family bibles,
multitudinous correspondence and personal knowledge.



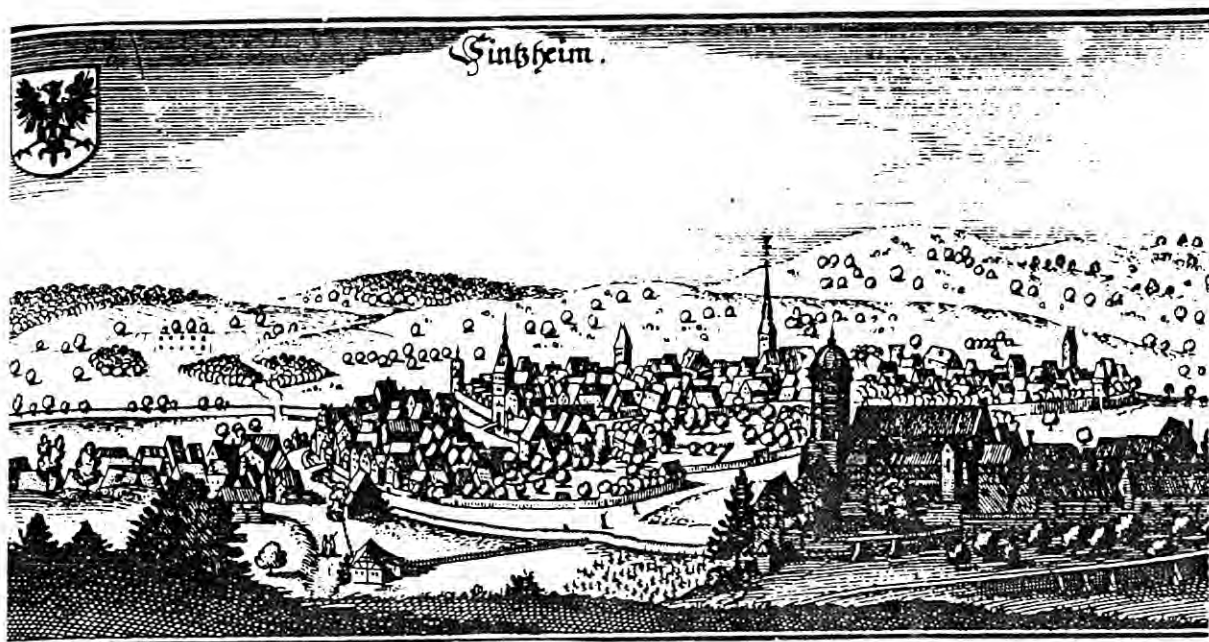
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THE VILLAGE OF SINSHEIM



Sinsheim first is named in official documents in the 770s as "Sunnisheim" About the year 1000 a cloister of Benedictine monks was established on a hill outside the village. The village received the right to strike coins and to hold a market weekly from Kaiser Heinrich IV in 1067. It became a free imperial city in the next centuries and in 1362 it was added to the holdings of the Palatinate. Sinsheim was completely burned in 1689. The picture from the Merian Topographia shows it in 1648. The Stiftberg or Michelsberg in the right foreground shows the cloister building, still standing today, although the cloister was closed in 1565. The tall church spire in the town was on the one church shared by Reformed and Catholics: the Roman church had the choir for its worship, the Reformed the nave. In the last decade the unity of the church has been restored, the Simultane umbroken, and the Catholics relocated in a church building of their own. Sinsheim has grown from 2500 inhabitants about 1800, both by becoming home refugees after WWII and by incorporating with itself eleven surrounding villages included in this study, Adersbach, Duehren, Ehrstaedt, Eschelbach, Hasselbach, Reihen, Rohrbach, Steinsfurt, Waldangelloch, Weiler and the city of Hilsbach.

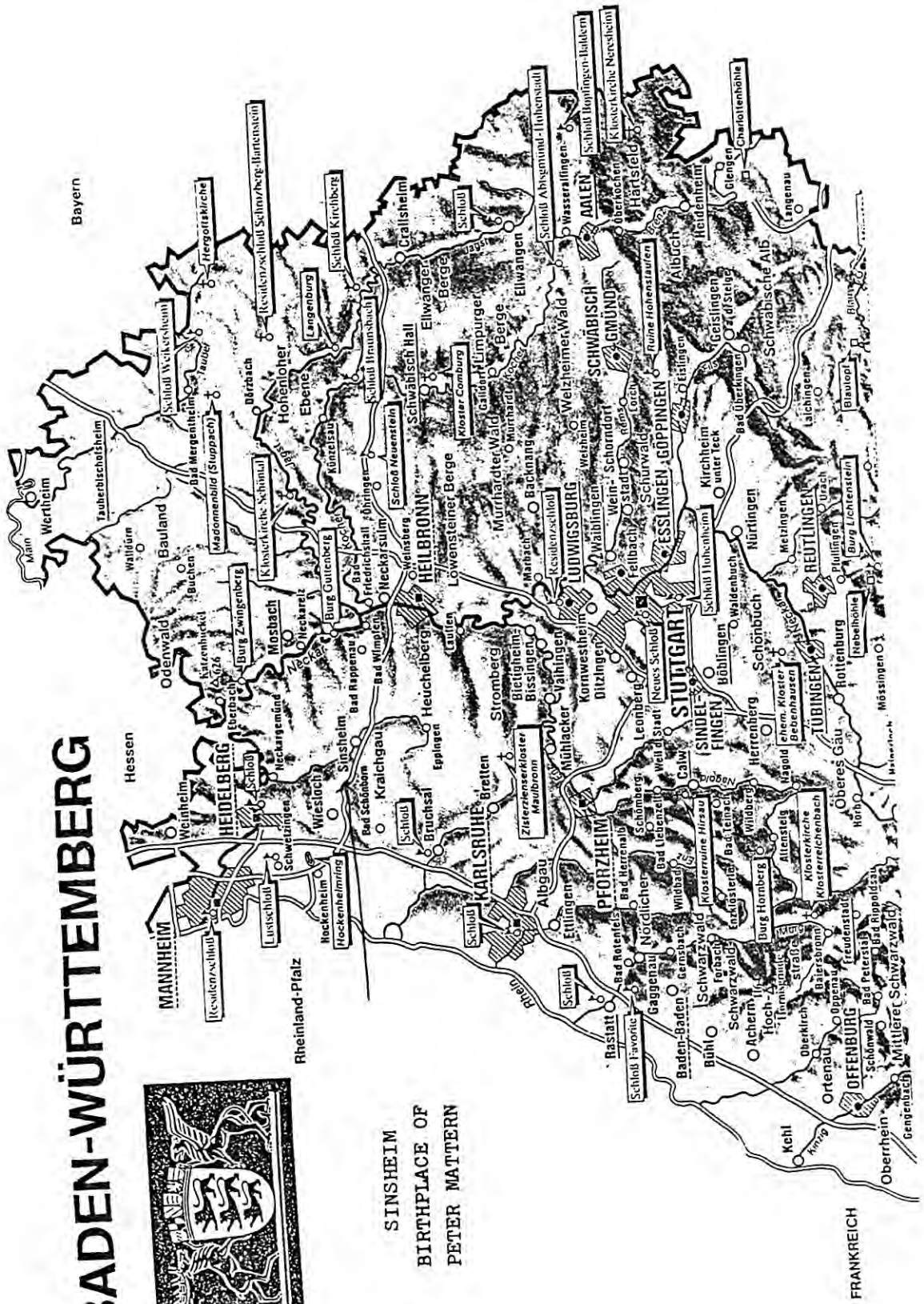
Peter Mattern was living in the Village of Sinsheim, Elsenz in 1732 when he left his home to sail for the new world.
From Eighteenth Century Emigrants, by Annette Kunselman Burgert.

Photo New York City Public Library

BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG



SINSHEIM
BIRTHPLACE OF
PETER MATTERN





Shiplist

26) Sept. 30, 1732. Palatines imported in the ship Dragon, Chas. Hargrave, Master, from Rotterdam, last from Plymouth.—In all 185.

Sept 30, 1732. Mit dem Schiff Dragon, Capitain Charles Hargrave, von Rotterdam über Plymouth, kamen Pfälzer.—Im Ganzen 185.

Peter Matern,*	Lenhart Bentz,
Michel Dirr,*	Michael Graff,
Christ. Hoffmann,*	Tobias Ball,
Jacob Leipersburger,*	Georg Fantz,
Hans Laabour,*	Georg Hayle,*
George Road,*	Georg Seib,
Leonhard Slosser,	Ludwig Sype,*
Leonhard Miller,*	Frantz Seib,
Peter Raudenbusch,	Henrich Klein,
Henrich Gruber,	Joh. Friedrich Romich,
Johannes Witman,	Hans Georg Dirr,*
Jacob Klein,	Martin Weidknecht,
Peter Schlosser,	Hans Adam Bender,
Christian Huber,	Johan Adam Romich,
Hans Georg Hegi,	Joh. Wilhelm Franck,
Simon Belsner,	Hans Jacob Schörck,
Andreas Schlauch,	Hans Peter Wolff,
Henrich Basler,	Johan Heerbürger,
Johannes Geiger,	Hans Rudolph Illig,
Johan Georg Greiner,	Hans Martin Kappler,
Joh. Dietrich Greiner,	Georg Ludwig Schütz,
Han Wilhelm Ziegler,	Christophel Beser,
Johannes Schreyiackh,	Johann Jacob Beyerle,
Joh. Nicklaus Müller,	Hans Ulrich Ber,
Johan Phil. Hopmann,	Hans Georg Heill,
Johan Philip Schlauch,	Felix Brunner,
Hans Michel Reisner,	Hans Georg Soldnier.

A. *Sick*—Andreas Beetel, Wilhelm Keyser, Daniel Steinmetz, Johan Hagea, Jacob Hagea, Georg Tsober, George Bär, Henry Zowck, Laurence Bechtle, Nichlas Musloch, Dietrich Bucher, Jacob Dubbs, Wolfgang Birle, Friederich Engelhart Uhlmann.—Simon Baserer, *dumb* (stumm).

A Journey To Pennsylvania

This article is reprinted from "Pennsylvania German Pioneers"
Strasburger & Hinke

The journey to Pennsylvania fell naturally into three parts. The first part, and by no means the easiest, was the journey down the Rhine to Rotterdam or some other port. Gottlieb Mittelberger in his "Journey to Pennsylvania in the year 1750" writes:

"This journey lasts from the beginning of May to the end of October, fully half a year, amid such hardships as no one is able to describe adequately with their misery. The cause is because the Rhine boats from Heilbronn to Holland have to pass by 26 custom houses, at all of which the ships were examined, which is done when it suits the convenience of the customhouse officials. In the meantime the ships are detained long, so that the passengers have to spend much of their money. The trip down the Rhine lasts therefore four, five, and even six weeks. When the ships come to Holland, they are detained there likewise five to six weeks. Because things are very expensive there, the poor people have to spend nearly all they have during this time.

The second stage of the journey was from Rotterdam to one of the English ports. Most of the ships stopped at the Isle of Wight to get their provisions before going out to the open sea. This was the favorite stopping place, as 142 ships are recorded as having sailed from Rotterdam to Cowes. (The last stop the Dragon which Peter and his family arrived on stopped at Plymouth, England).

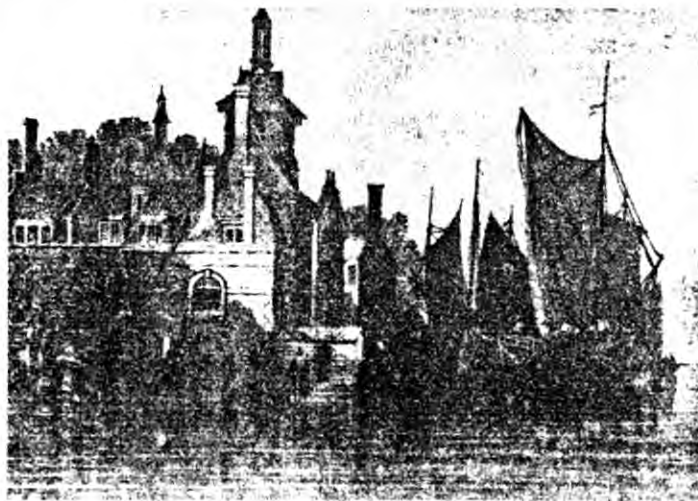
In England there was another delay of one to two weeks, when the ships were waiting either to be passed through the custom house or waiting for favorable winds as all ships were sailing vessels. When the ships had for the last time weighed their anchors, then, writes Middelberger, "The real misery begins with the long voyage. For from there the ships, unless they have a good wind, must often sail eight, nine, ten or twelve weeks before they reach Philadelphia. But even with the best winds the voyage lasts seven weeks ".

The third stage of the journey, or the ocean voyage proper, was marked by much suffering and hardship. The passengers being packed densely, like herrings, as Middelberger describes it, without proper food and water, were soon subject to all sorts of diseases such as dysentery, scurvy, typhoid, and smallpox. Children were the first attacked and died in large numbers. Middleberger reports the deaths of thirty-two children on his ship. Of the heartless cruelty practiced he gives the following example: "One day, just as we had a heavy gale, a woman in our ship, who was to give birth and could not under the circumstances of the storm, was pushed through the porthole and dropped into the sea, because she was far in the rear of the ship and could not be brought forward ".

Some of the captains were reputed to be cruel and inhuman masters. Governor Gordon refers in one of letters to "the horrid barbarity with which the passengers were treated to " by one captain, while the passengers themselves called him " a wicked murderer of souls. " But others were known as kind and considerate. Christopher Schultz, who came on the ship Saint Andrew, wrote of the captain, John Steadman: "We had a very good captain, who kept strictly to the contract, and very able sailors, who had very much patience with us " .

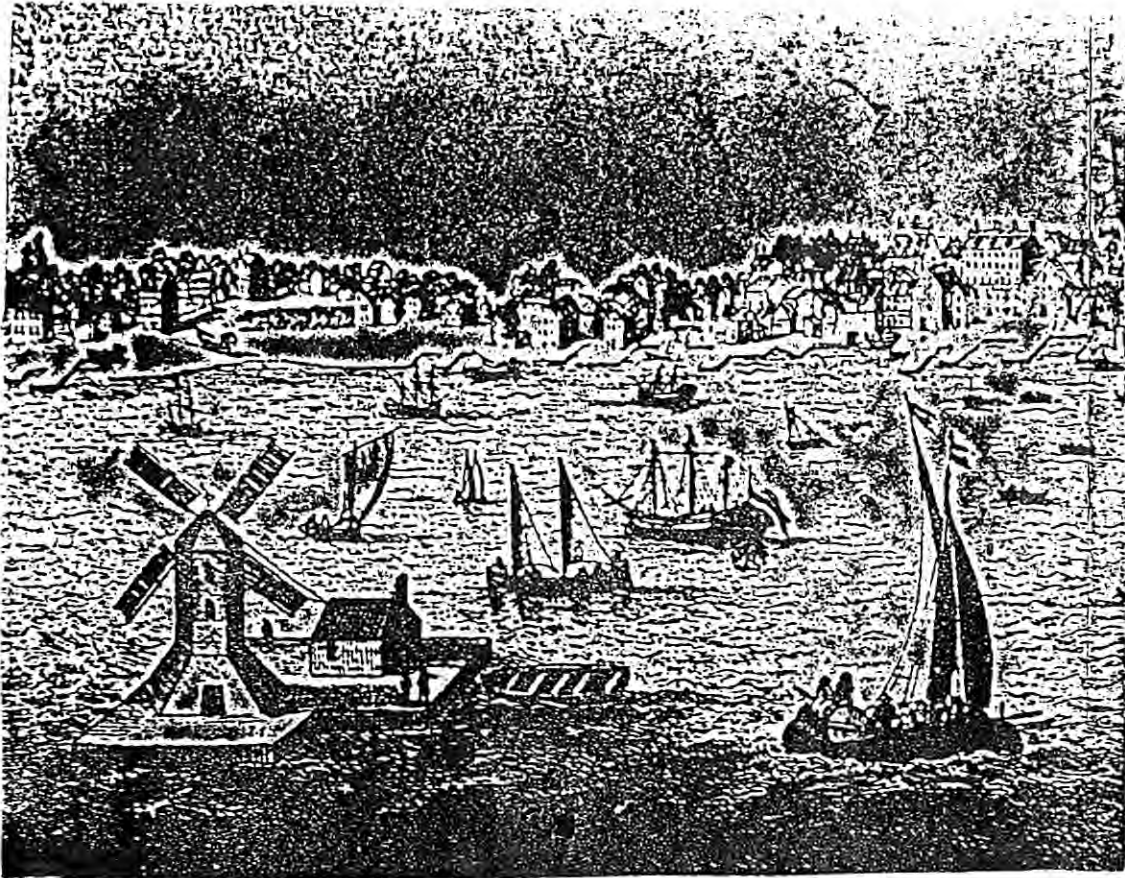
The terrors of disease, brought about to a large extent by poor food and lack of good drinking water, were much aggravated by frequent storms through which the ships and passengers had to pass. "The misery reaches the climax when a gale rages for two or three nights and days, so that even one believes that the ship will go to the bottom with all human beings aboard. In such a visitation the people cry and pray most piteously. When in such a gale the sea rages and surges, so that the waves rise often like mountains one above the other, and often tumble over the ship, so that one fears to go down with the ship: when the ship is constantly tossed from side to side by the storm and waves: so that no one can either walk, or sit, or lie, and the closely packed people in the berths are thereby tumbled over each other, both the sick and the well. It will be readily understood that many of these people, none of whom had been prepared for such hardships, suffer so terribly from them that they do not survive.

When at last the Delaware River was reached and the City of Brotherly Love hove in sight, where all their miseries were to end, if any persons with infectious diseases were discovered on the ship, it was ordered to remove one mile from the city. Only when the disease had run its course, with further misery and, possibly, death, were the passengers finally allowed to disembark in the land of their dreams.



Harbor of Rotterdam, from which most of the Emigrant Ships left
(Engraved by S. Lacey)

Port Of Old Philadelphia



THE FIRST SIGHT OF LAND THAT THE IMMIGRANTS SAW WHEN THEY CAME TO AMERICA WAS THE CITY OF OLD PHILADELPHIA

Upon the ships arrival, passengers journeying to America from Germany had to first sign the Pledge to the Crown of England before being permitted to settle in Pennsylvania. They were brought from the ship to the Court House in Philadelphia two by two, till all had signed the document, pledging their loyalty to England. To some this pledge was so sacred that when the colonies went to war against England they refused to fight against the British.

Most of the early Germans settled in the south eastern part of Pennsylvania, and became part of the Pennsylvania German ethnic group. Our Mattern family is first found at the Six Cornered Church in Upper Hanover Township, now Montgomery Co. Later they moved to Lower Macungie Township, near Alburtis in Lehigh County.

Benjamin Franklin despised the Palatines. He viewed them as Europe's "Riff Raff" and ordered them to discourage their immigration, according to the Breitbard paper. However the Palatines were responsible for many American firsts, including the first school textbook in America, first choir hymnal, first paper and knitting mills in the new world.



COURT HOUSE AT PHILADELPHIA IN WHICH OATH OF ALLEGIANCE WAS SIGNED. (FROM DRAWING IN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA)

Oath, Pledge To The Crown

EDITORIAL NOTE.

The following list of foreigners who took the oath of allegiance to the crown of Great Britain and the Province of Pennsylvania, from the year 1727 to 1775, with those to the State from the close of the Revolution, have been in part printed. The originals in the possession of the Commonwealth having been badly mutilated by searchers for untold fortunes, it has been deemed advisable to publish the entire record under the authority of the State and the lists have been carefully compared and collated. To make the same of permanent value a complete index of surnames is given. In some few cases, the entire list of ship's passengers is preserved with the ages of all. Originally these were furnished the proper authorities, but unfortunately one by one they have been abstracted.

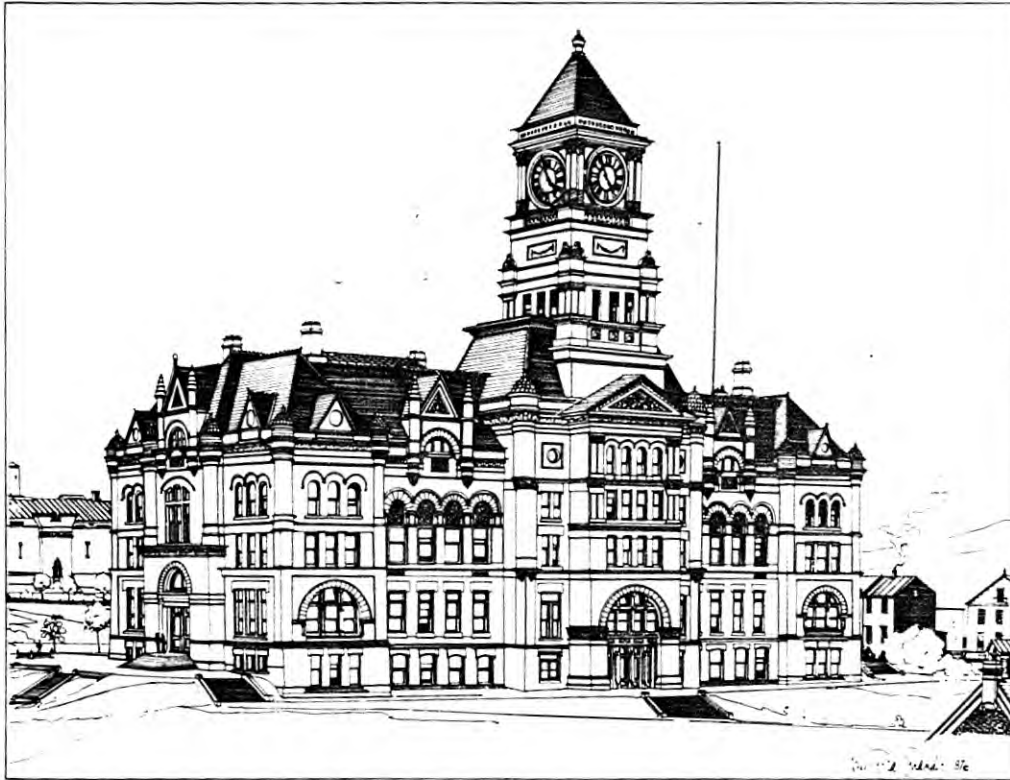
Owing to the large influx of foreigners, especially German and Swiss, it was deemed advisable to compel all to take the oath of allegiance, which was at the first as follows :

I, A B, do solemnly & sincerely promise & declare that I will be true & faithfull to King George the Second and do solemnly, sincerely and truly Profess Testifie and Declare, that I do from my Heart abhor, detest & renounce as impious & heretical that wicked Doctrine & Position that Princes Excommunicated or deprived by the Pópe or any authority of the See of Rome may be deposed or murdered by their subjects or any other what-late, State, or Potentate hath or ought to have any power, soever. And I do declare that no foreign Prince, Person, Pre-Jurisdiction, Superiority, Pre-eminence, or Authority Ecclesiastical or Spiritual within the Realm of Great Britain or the Dominions thereunto belonging.

I. A. B., do solemnly sincerely and truly acknowledge profess testify & declare that King George the Second is lawful & rightful King of the Realm of Great Britain & of all others his Dominions & Countries thereunto belonging; and I do solemnly & sincerely declare that I do believe the Person pretending to be Prince of Wales during the Life of the late King James, & since his Decease pretending to be taken upon himself the Stile and Title of King of England by the Name of James the Third, or of Scotland by the Name of James the Eighth or the Stile and title of King of Great Britain hath not any right or title whatsoever to the Crown of the Realm of Great Britain, nor any

other the Dominions thereunto belonging. And I do renounce & refuse any Allegiance or obedience to him & do solemnly promise, that I will be true and faithful, & bear true Allegiance to King George the Second & to him will be faithfull against all traitorous Conspiracies & attempts whatsoever which shall be made against his Person, Crown & Dignity, & I will doe my best Endeavours to disclose & make known to King George the Second & his Successors all Treasons and traitorous Conspiracies which I shall know to be made against him or any of them. And I will be true and faithfull to the succession of the Crown against him the said James & all other Persons whatsoever as the same is & stands settled by An Act Entitled An Act declaring the Rights & Liberties of the Subject, & settling the Succession of the Crown to the late Queen Anne & the Heirs of her Body being Protestants, and as the same by one other Act Entitled An Act for the further Limitation of the Crown & better securing the Rights & Liberties of the Subject is & stands Settled & Entailed after the Decease of the said late Queen, & for Default of Issue of the said late Queen to the late Princess Sophia Electoress & Duchess Dowager at Hanover the Heirs of Her Body being Protestants and all these things I do plainly & sincerely acknowledge promise & declare, according to these express words by me spoken, & according to the plain & common sense and understanding of the same Words, without any Equivocation, mental Evasion or Secret Reservation whatsoever. And I do make this Recognition, Acknowledgement, Renunciation & Promise heartily willingly and truly.

All males over sixteen years of age were obliged to take this oath and declaration, as soon after their arrival as possible—being marched to the Court House, although in a number of instances they were qualified at the official residence of the magistrate.



SCHUYLKILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Justice never found a permanent home in Schuylkill County until 1891. Prior to construction of the first Courthouse in the Co. in 1815, court was held at McKeansburg tavern of Abraham Reiffschneider. It was in this tavern the first court in Schuylkill County presided.

The first Courthouse was a 2 story brick structure built at a cost of \$5,000. It was a simple building with the courtroom on the first floor, and jury rooms and public offices on the second. The first court held there was in 1816.

In 1846 the ground at Second & Sanderson Streets was selected for the erection of the new courthouse. The construction of this first Pottsville courthouse was paid through private subscriptions at a total of \$30,000. The new courthouse was 123 X 37 ft. and 2 stories high. The second floor was divided into a courtroom, 4 jury rooms, a consultation room, and a library. The structure was completed in May, 1851. The transfer of public records from Orwigsburg was finally completed 7 months later. On December 8, 1851, the first session in the courthouse was convened by President Judge Higin,



The Peter Mattern Family In America

The family name "Mattern" is of German origin. Originally it was a word of three syllables and commonly known as MATTERHORN. But the name was too long so it was shortened and changed to a word of two syllables, namely MATTHORN. Then later it was changed to MATHERN, though the early settler PETER MATTERN spelled his name with only one "T". Some claim that the name MATTER was originally Mattern, but there are many Matters on the ship list. They must be another line of Matterns, maybe Adam Mattern. His name was spelled Matter on the ship list. We can tie in with none of these.

Early church records from Sinsheim Luthern Church in Sinsheim Germany state Hans George and Anna Margaretha Matter had a son Peter, born February 13, 1706. Later Sinsheim records indicate Peter Mattern and his wife, Anna Catherine, had two daughters. They also showed Peter Mattern Emigrated to the Americas.

EARLY AMERICAN SETTLERS

In 1732 there was a large influx of German Settlers in America from Amsterdam and Rotterdam, Holland. The early records give the names of the male passengers, but not the names of the women and children, simply saying there were so many of each. On September 30, that year the ship "Dragon" Capt. Charles Hargrave, Master of the vessel, landed at Philadelphia with 185 passengers in all. 70 men, 53 women and 62 children on board. The last stop before hitting the open sea was Plymouth, England, where they loaded more provisions for the long journey. Among the list is a "PETER MATERN", whose name heads the list. With him was his wife "ANNA CATHARINA" born in Europe in 1702, a daughter "ANNA MARGARETHA" born 12-21-1729. married Goffried Difenderfer in 1753. From the book "Eighteenth Century Emigrants" The Northern Kraichgau, gives Anna Margaretha born 12-21-1729. This seems the correct date for her birth. Somewhere else her date of birth is listed as 10-6-1727. It seems almost certain that there was only one Anna Margaretha. Could one have been her date of birth, and the other her date of baptism? MARIA ROSINA JULIANA b. 4-11-1732 was listed as a second daughter. St. Paul's Lutheran KB, Upper Hanover Township, Montgomery County lists JOHANN HEINRICH born 9-2-1740, and JOHANN PETER baptized 9-5-1743, 4 weeks old. Zion's Lutheran KB (Lehigh Church) Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County gives the date of death of Maria Catharina Mattern's death date as 9-10-1758, age 57 years, 7 months. It also lists the Confirmations at Lehigh Church in 1756 of Heinrich Mattern, Peter Mattern, and Agnes Mattern.

The early German settlers made their way up through the trackless forests infested with Indians, to the north of Philadelphia area into the rich and fertile valley stretching from the Schuylkill in a north easterly direction toward the Delaware. Originally this entire section of the country was laid out as "Northampton County", which now comprises the counties of Berks, Lehigh, Montgomery and Northampton.

It is known that "PETER MATERN" settled at the "SIX CORNERED LUTHERAN CHURCH" in Upper Hanover Township, now Montgomery County. Later he moved to "Lower Macungie Township", near to Alburdis in Lehigh County. It was there in 1758 his beloved wife, "Maria Catharina" died and was buried. Her grave is still seen there. Evidently there is a marker for her. I have not visited the cemetery.

PETER MATTERN 1st as we will call him hereafter, the pioneer and the father of children: ANNA MARGARETHA 1729, MARIA ROSINA JULIANA 1732, born in Europe, MARGARET 1734, HEINRICH 1740, AGNES and PETER JR. 1743, born in this country. Heinrich, Peter and Agnes were confirmed as indicated by the Record in 1756 in the Lutheran Church at Macungie, Lehigh County. Agnes drops out here. No more known of her.

ANNA MARGARETHA was born in Germany. She married Gottfried Diefenderfer. Both died Trexlertown, Pa., west of Allentown. Gottfried and Anna Margaretha had four sons, and three daughters. Namely JOHN, GERTRAUT, JACOB, MARGARET, HENRY, ANNA ELISABETH and PHILIP.

MARIA ROSINA JULIANA also born in Germany must have died young. There is no trace of her here in America.

MARIA MARGARET was baptized Goshenhoppen Church. No more known about her.

ELISABETH baptized Gish Church. She was a servant of John Zueker

HEINRICH MATTERN, (the name was now being spelled with two "t"), married to Gertraut. He reared a family of 3 children. Namely, CATHARINA, GEORGE, and JOHN. The daughter was born in 1767. George married Catharina Reiss and moved over to Berks County. They had 5 daughters. One daughter married Reuben Traxler, who became the Grandfather of JUDGE FRANK MATTERN TRAXLER of Pennsylvania. JOHN MATTERN, the brother of George, married the sister of George's wife, and became the father of 5 daughters and 3 sons. One of the daughters married JAMES SINGMASTER of Macungie, Lehigh County. One of his sons became the immediate father of REV. JOHN A. SINGMASTER, D.D.LLD, the late president of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pa. Their daughter Elsie Singmaster Lewars is the nationally known "Short Story Writer" Peter Mattern remained in the Region of Lower Macungie, Lehigh County until his death.

The youngest son of the old settler was "JOHN PETER", born and baptized in 1743 in the Lutheran Church. The first name "John" evidently dropped as he was commonly known by the name "Peter". He will be known hereafter as Peter Jr. We learn that Peter Jr. was the father of 7 children. 3 boys, and 4 daughters. (Page 170 on Lehigh Baptisms gives Peter III as a son of Heinrich and not of Peter Jr. Maybe someone wrote the initials H.M. in the church records, for the majority feel that Peter III was the S/O Peter Jr. The four daughters accounted for, are ELISABETH, ROSINA, CATHARINA & MARIA. Elisabeth married Christian Schmick, Rosina married 1st Daniel Haas Sr., and 2nd Jacob Bensinger. Catharina became Mrs. Andreas Gift, and Maria became Mrs. Nicholas Ramer. It's evident that JACOB migrated over into Snyder County after the Revolutionary War for his grave is yet found in Middleburg, that same county. His descendants settled in Centre and Mifflin Counties. A railroad station in Centre County is named "Mattern" after this branch of the family.

Henry the S/O Peter Jr. went still farther west and settled in Jefferson county. He had the following children Henry Jr., Eva, Lafayette Benjamin, Lydia, Elizabeth, Johann, Joseph, Hannah, William.

DANIEL went up into Schuylkill County, there he reared his family and was buried in Kehler's Cemetery. While living there he became the father of 6 sons and 2 daughters namely David, Susanna, Daniel Jr., Joseph, Polly, Nathan, Elias, Frank.

PETER MATTERN JR. is found in Maxatawney Township, Berks County, as a Federal taxpayer in 1785 and 1786 owned some land, horses and cows. In 1785 he is found as a tax-payer in Macungie Township, Lehigh County also.

PETER MATTERN III It was the custom among the Germans to name the first born son after the father. So there is scarcely a doubt that Peter III was the S/O Peter Jr.

PETER MOTTERN IV was born in Berks County in 1806 who having reached mature life migrated to the great Susquehanna Valley, settling in that section known as Montour County, in the Mahoning Township is not certain. Just when he migrated northward from Berks County into the Susquehanna Valley, that section known then as "Columbia County" which later became Montour County, Mahoning Township. It must have been around 1825. Peter IV married one of the neighboring girls by the name of Susanna Mourer, now known as "Mowery". They established their home not far from the "Bloom Road" at "Dutch Hill", known also as "Ridgeville", and by the Reading Railroad in their list of stations as "Grovania". This was within easy reach of the Pa. Canal and the Susquehanna River, just over the ridge to the south, less than a mile away. In that early home where the children were born. Peter was a carpenter, bridge builder and contractor. They

later moved to East Market St. in Danville, near the present site of the County prison. While there he assisted in building numerous canal bridges and the bridge across the river to South Danville.

THE MONTOURS COUNTY MOTTERN

There is no doubt in the least that the "MOTTERN" and the "MATTERN" families in this country, as we have shown are the same original family. And that both can trace their present generation back to the early settler "PETER MATERN I" who landed in Philadelphia in 1732. One outstanding proof, besides what we have already shown, are the very similar and identical characteristics in almost every detail of both branches of their families, and as a rule these remain true to nature as they pass down from generation to generation.

The changing of the "a" to "o" no doubt came in through the spelling from confusion of the letters when the name was written, and it is even so to this day.

Warren Mottern attested to the fact that he was an eye witness to the fact that his father, Samuel Mottern, had among his own carpenter tools one of his own saws, which had burned on the handle, the name "Mattern". And calling his father's attention to that, he replied, "that was the way my father always spelled his name."

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY MATTERNS

Northumberland County Genealogical And Biographical History

The Matterns of Upper Mahantongo Township, Northumberland county, represent one branch of the family that settled in the adjoining township of Eldred, Schuylkill county, in an early day, and they and other Matterns of eastern Pennsylvania are descended from Peter Mattern, who in 1790 was a resident of Berks county, Pa. In 1802 he lived in Upper Mahantongo Township, then a part of Berks county but since 1811 embraced in the territory of Schuylkill county. He was a farmer by occupation. Among his children were Peter Jr., and Daniel. The Matterns of Berks County are descendants of Peter Mattern, William J.A. Mattern, chief clerk for the commissioners of Berks county, tracing his line through the son Daniel also.

Daniel came from Upper Mahantongo Township to Eldred Township before 1800, when the region was all covered with forest, and took up a tract of 160 acres which he cleared. This was later the farm of George Maurer. He built a log house and a log barn, the first buildings to be erected upon the property, in the ownership of which he was succeeded by his son Daniel. He married Rosina Schollenberger, also of Berks County, and they had children as follows: David settled in Mahantongo Valley, where he

died; Polly married Jacob Lubold. They lived Barry Township, Schuylkill County; Joseph lived in the vicinity of Lenhartsville Pa.; Nathan settled in Lower Nortumberland Co.; Susanna married George Neiswander; Elias, in 1910 was 84 years old and lived in Barry township, Schuylkill county; Frank lived and died in Schuylkill County.

Daniel Mattern, son of Daniel, was born in Eldred township, Schuylkill county, was reared there, and followed farming in his native township until a few years before his death. He owned a tract of 160 acres. He then retired and moved to Ashland, where he lived with one of his sons, and where he died when about 76 years old. He is buried at Kehler's Church, in Eldred township, Schuylkill county. he was regarded with respect by all who knew him. He was a tall man and well built. He married Lydia Diehl, D/O Michael Diehl, and they had children as follows: Amos; Samuel, who was a rover, never making a permanent settlement; Daniel, who died in his sixteenth year; Michael born 1850 and died married; Solomon born 7-28-1853, and died unmarried.

Amos Mattern, son of Daniel Jr. was born May 12, 1845, in Eldred township, Schuylkill county, and there lived until within a few months of his majority, meantime receiving his education in the local public schools. He later moved to Upper Mahanoy township, Northumberland county, engaged in farming in which he has been very successful. For thirty-three years he owned and lived upon a tract of 110 acres in the northern part of the township, in the spring of 1909 moving near Leck Kill. There he had 12 acres lying along the main road from Herndon to Minersville. Amos was a public spirited citizen, and has served as school director and for six years as supervisor of Upper Mahanoy township, where he was regarded with respect by all who knew him.

On August 7, 1869 Amos Mattern married Amelia Herb, a D/O Daniel Herb. Seven children were born to this union: James, who lived in Philadelphia; Felix D. William H. of Schuylkill county; Edward H. who died in infancy. Sarah Elizabeth wife of Jackson Brosius; Monroe, of Howerter's Church. His wife Sylvia S., died Sept. 9, 1901, aged twenty two years, five months, twenty four days); and Charles D., of Shamokin. In 1891 Monroe married (second) Catharine Cevilla Hornberger, daughter of George W. and Caroline Shankweiler Hornberger, of Upper Mahanoy township, and granddaughter of George Hornberger. There is one son by this marriage, George Calvin, who was educated in the public school and at Hepler's select school and began teaching public school in the fall of 1909, being in Upper Mahanoy township. Mr. Mattern and his family were Lutherans in religious connection. In politics he was a Democrat.

Felix Daniel Mattern, son of Amos, was born March 23, 1872, in Upper Mahanoy township, where he was engaged in farming. He was reared in that occupation, and meantime received his education in the local public schools. In the spring of 1897 he

commenced farming on his own account in his native township, renting for several years before he felt justified in buying farm land. In 1902 he came to the 120-acre property he thence cultivated, and which was formerly a Geist homestead. He made a number of improvements on the place, had a full line of modern farm implements to facilitate his work, and has had encouraging success in the production of his crops as well as their disposal, attending the Shamokin markets. He was an intelligent and active citizen, and served eight years as overseer of the poor in the district. He was interested in the success of the democratic party from a political standpoint, and has twice served as election judge in his precinct.

On December 21, 1895, Felix married Clara Ida Geist, daughter of Andrew and Polly Latsha Geist, of Upper Mahanoy township, and they were the parents of three sons: Jesse L., Willard W., and Guy D. Felix and Clara were Lutheran members of Himmel's Church, which he formerly served as deacon.

Nathan Mattern, son of Daniel and Rosina Schollenberger Mattern, was born Jan. 27, 1823, in Eldred township, on his father's farm, where he grew to manhood. He learned the trade of Carpenter and followed it in his earlier years, later becoming a farmer in Upper Mahanoy township, Northumberland county, on the farm where his son Aaron later lived. He owned this place consisting of some sixty acres, as well as the seventy-five acre tract occupied by his son Jeremiah, in the same township. He was a well known resident of that section, a Lutheran member of Howerter's Church and chorister for many years; He sang at many funerals in the neighborhood. Nathan died May 25, 1907, aged eighty-four years, and is buried at Howerter's Church. His wife (Sarah Diehl), daughter of Johannes Diehl, was born Dec. 19, 1819 and died April 15, 1881; she too is buried at Howerter's Church. Nathan and Sarah had children as follows: Jeremiah; Joel who had a family of five children; Aaron, who had a family of seven; Nathan Jr. who had six children: Enoch who was the father of ten children; Elizabeth, who married Abraham Brown and had three children; Sarah, who died in girlhood; John, who died in infancy; and Lydia, who died unmarried.

Jeremiah Mattern, son of Nathan, was born Nov. 2, 1849, on his father's homestead in Upper Mahanoy township. He was reared to farm life, but possessed an unusual amount of mechanical ingenuity and had learned several trades without serving a regular apprenticeship at any. He was a successful well driller and thresher, and was well known all over this section, and had established an extensive business in the latter line, being very busy during this season. He was the first man to bring a steam threshing apparatus into Upper Mahanoy and the surrounding territory, in 1881, when farmers were still possessed with the fear that their buildings would be in danger of being set afire if they allowed such an outfit on the premises. It was at this time also that he purchased the stationary sawmill and operated it as well as the threshing for many of his patrons on their own

premises. He sawed the lumber and sold it to the coal mining towns. He worked one tract of his land in partnership with his sons, his son Charles living on the farm, which comprised of 185 acres. There were originally 227 acres on this property, but Jeremiah sold part of it. He owned another farm in the same township, the place where he resided. The house where he lived has been greatly remodeled since it came into his possession, and the barn, though in excellent condition, has stood for many years, having been built by his father in 1872. He was one of the most successful men in his vicinity, and was prominent in public as well as in business affairs, served two years as supervisor, and was tax collector. In politics he was a Democrat. In 1875 Mr. Mattern married Catharine Reed, daughter of David & Sarah Falck Reed, and fourteen children have been born to this union: Emma J. married William Mattern, and they lived over the line in Schuylkill county, on the property adjoining her father's farm. Sarah E. died when eighteen years old. Daniel H. married Nora Klock and they lived Shamokin; David died when just one year old; Mary C. married Monroe Mattern and they lived in Upper Mahanoy township; Charles F. who lived on one of his father's farms in Upper Mahanoy township, married Cecelia Snyder; Rosa C. married Harvey Snyder and they lived in Upper Mahanoy; Edward, Katie S., Minnie L. and William O. were still at home the time this history was written. One daughter died in infancy; Florence L. and Lizzie E. were at home also. The family worshipped at St. Jacob's (Howerters).

IN THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION

It was PETER MATTERN JR. born 1743, who became the Revolutionary Soldier with his brother Henry. Peter enlisted May 8th 1777 as a "substitute" for Peter Wolfe, and he returned mustered out May 14th, 1778 as per the record. He belonged to the Militia from Northampton County, 2nd Battalion, 5th Co., Class 5th, under Capt. Trexler, Nicholas Kern, Esq., Lieut. Col.

HENRY MATTERN belonged to the 7th Company, 8th Class under Capt. Greenmyer. Henry was also a substitute for Michael Shaffer, in the Northampton Militia. The above taken from the federal Records.



The Peter Mattern Family

1 PETER MATTERN b. 2-13-1706 Sinsheim, Germany d. 1-3-1782
Maria Anna Catherina b. 2-10-1702 Germany d. 9-10-1758
Peter was the S/O Hans George Mathern & wife Anna Margaretha. Peter was a passenger on board the "Dragon" Commander Charles Hargrave from Rotterdam, Holland, last Portsmouth, England. Qualified 9-9-1732. Peter was the first person to sign the usual forms, pledging allegiance to the Crown of England. He first settled in Bucks County. Peter must have worked himself slowly northward for the next time we find him at the Six Cornered Church in Upper Hanover Township, Montgomery County in 1743 when he had his son John Peter baptized. He was mentioned as one of the first members of Lehigh Church, Macungie Township in the region of Alburtis. He undoubtedly stayed in Lower Macungie for his wife is buried there. Peter wife Maria Anna Catharina and their two daughters Anna Margaretha & Maria Rosina Juliana were born in Germany, and made the long journey together. He is listed in the Simsheim Lutheran Church, Sinsheim, Elsenz.

Children: Anna Margaret b. 10-6-1727 d. 4-6-1801
Maria Rosina Juliana b. 4-11-1732 d.
Maria Margaretha b. 1-1-1734 d.
Elisabeth b. 1738 d.
Johann Heinrich b. 9-2-1740 d. ca. 1814
Agnes b.
Johann Peter Jr. b. 8-1743 d.



The Peter Mattern Jr. Family

2/7 PETER MATTERN JR. b. 8-1743 Maxatawny Twp. d. ca. 1815
1st Catharina (Maybe Walbert) b.
2nd Maria Catharina Eiler b.

S/O Peter & Maria Anna Catharina Mattern. Peter was baptized at the Six Cornered Church in 9-5-1743. His sponsor Peter Mestein. Confirmed 5-19-1756, Zion Lehigh Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lower Macungie, Lehigh Co., He served in the War of the Revolution. Enlisted 5-8-1777. Mustered out 5-14-1778. He belonged to the Militia of Northampton County, 2nd Battalion, 5th Class. Peter appeared in the 1790 census in Berks County, 1802 he was in Upper Mahantongo Township, which was then Berks County now Sch. Someone said he didn't live in Upper Mahantongo in 1802, but he probably did live there, Upper Mahantongo was in Berks County in 1802. Schuylkill County was formed from Berks in 1811. By process of elimination we feel that Peter Mattern is buried in Howerter's Cemetery. It was the first cemetery in the area. First burial was 1803. In 1809 there was an agreement between Peter Mattern the father, and his sons Daniel & Henry. In 1812 the document was recorded. This is proof that Peter was living in 1809, at which time the only cemetery in the area was Howerters. The closest Cemetery would have been Himmels at Rebuck. St. John's Leck Kill had it's first burial 1853 when 13 months old Johnnes Beissel, S/O Moses Beissel was buried. It is after this child that St. John's Church was named. By this time Peter would have been 110 years old. The little Lutheran Cemetery called Zions in the village of Kehlers had it's first burial 1857. So you see, there was no other burial ground in this area but Howerters.

From Berks Co. Mortgage Book G. Pages 387-388 dated 6-7-1803 Between William Witman Jr. of Reading, Pa. (Esquire) of the one part and Peter Mattern of Maxatawny Township, Berks Co., Pa. (farmer) of the other part. In consideration of 963 pounds (a debt owed William Witmer Jr.). two tracts of land situated in "Mahantongo Valley", Mahantongo Township, Berks County, Pa. One adjoining the lands of Joseph Budd, John Young, Heppler, and John Kremer containing 327 acres, 67 perches. The other tract adjoining lands of Moses Hartman containing 314 acres, 37 perches. Purchased about 1802.

Peter is listed in Maxatawny Township in the 1790 census. He was also listed in Maxatawny Township in the 1800 census. In 1810 he was listed in Upper Mahantongo Township (Still part of Berks). His land in Maxatawny Township was deeded to Christian Smick in 1810. Deek Book, Volume 35 Page 50. 1811 he was listed in the Upper Mahantongo tax records in Upper Mahantongo Township. 1812, 1813, 1814, 1815 he is listed in the Upper Mahantongo Tax Records as now Peter Sr. given as his possessions \$5.00. In 1816 he no longer appears.

Maria Catharina Second wife, but not the mother of his children. D/O Adam Eiler. Berks Co. Recorders Office, Vol. 37 P. 509 recorded 1-26-1829 Grantee: Simon Wertman Grantee: heirs of Adam Eiler: Catharina Mattern, John Keller, David Zerbe & Elisabeth, Daniel Keller & Elisabeth, (daughters inherited). Catharina was not named "apart from husband" and no husband joined in deceased at signing of deed 12-26-1828, also Catharina's acknowledgement was taken in Schuylkill County by George Raush, Justice of the Peace.

Peter and Maria Catharina married in Bern Township, Berks Co. 9-13-1792, Schwartzwald Church Record by Rev. William Boos. Who was his first wife Catharina, the mother of his children?

Children: Peter III b. 1768
 Elisabeth b. 12-2-1768 d. 8-22-1848
 Johannes Jacob b. 5-12-1771 (bapt. date)
 Henry b. 4-26-1773 d.
 Rosina b. 1777 d. 12-28-1861
 Catharina b. 10-16-1780 d. 1873
 Daniel b. 5-5-1783 d. 8-2-1867
 Maria b. 12-1-1790 d. 3-29-1781



THE PETER MATTERN III FAMILY

3/1 PETER MATTERN III b. 1768
 Christina b.

S/O Peter & Catharina Mattern Jr. He was Confirmed 1781 at Lehigh Church, Lower Macungie twp. They spelled their name Mottern. R. Warren Mottern was an eye witness to the fact that his father Samuel Mottern, had among his carpenter tools a saw that had first belonged to his father, on it was burned the name Mattern. When he called his father's attention to it he replied " That's the way my father spelled it ".

Peter died in Upper Berks County, now Schuylkill. Member of Howerters Church, Pitman, Pa. Behind Peter's name on the confirmation records were written the initials H.M., which means he was the son of Heinrich instead of Peter Jr. as was first recorded by our families. Lehigh Church Records, page 170 confirmations. Also Peter already had a daughter Elisabeth born in 1768. However I am now putting him to Peter Jr. Listing him as his son, because in all the other records he is listed as S/O Peter Jr. In the census Heinrich has listed three children only Johannes, George Catharina.

Children: Jacob b.
 Gabriel b.
 Peter IV b. 9-19-1806 d. 10-18-1857
 Samuel b. 7-10-1809
 Daughter b.
 Daughter b.

Received June 14, 1817

Page 445, Don't know what volume

This Indenture made the fourteenth day of June, in the Year of Our Lord, One thousand eight hundred and seventeen, Between Nicholas Ramer of Upper Mahantongo Township, Schuylkill County & the State of Pennsylvania, Yeoman of the One Part, And Peter Mattern also of the same township, county and state aforesaid, the other part, Whereas the said Nicholas Ramer, in and by a certain obligation under his hand and seal, Bearing date herewith Standeth bound unto the said Peter Mattern Sr. (Jr.?) in the sum of six hundred & seventy five pounds, one shilling and eight pence, Lawful, money of Pennsylvania, Conditioned for the payment of three hundred and thirty seven pounds, ten shillings & ten pence, Lawful money aforesaid, On the twenty fourth of June next ensuing the date hereof with Lawful Interest for the same, as in and by the said recited obligation, and condition thereof; Relation being thereunto had more fully and at large appear: NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH, That the said Nicholas Ramer, as well for and in the consideration of the aforesaid Debt, or sum of three hundred and thirty seven pounds, ten shilling and ten pence, and for the better securing the payment thereof with its Interest unto the said Peter Mattern Sr., his Executors, Administrators and assigns in discharge of the said recited obligation, as of the further sum of One dollar to him in hand paid by the said Peter Mattern, Sr. at and before the ensealing and delivery here of the receipt where is hereby acknowledged, Have granted, bargained, sold, released and confirmed, and by the presents do grant, bargain, sell, release & confirm unto the said Peter Mattern Sr., His heirs and assigns, All that certain tract of land, situate in Upper Mahantongo Township, Schuylkill County, Bounded & scribed as follows to wit; Beginning at a white oak, thence by land of John Hepler South, eighty-seven degrees and a half West; fifty six perches to a stone, thence by land of the late Peter Mattern Junior, South, two and a half degrees East two hundred and forty six perches to a stone. Thence by land of William Bell Es-. North eighty-seven and a half degrees East, forty six perches to a black oak, thence by land of Henry Mattern North two and a half degrees West, two hundred and forty six perches to a place of Beginning; Containing eighty two acres, and fifty one perches and a half, and allowance of six percent for roads, _____ Together with all & singular the Buildings, Improvements, Ways, Woods, Waters, Water-Courses, Rights, Liberties, Privileges, and Heditments and appurtenants whatsoever therein so belonging, or in any wise appertaining, and the reversions & ren Rents, Issues and profit. To have and to hold the said Tract of Land Heraditaments and premises hereby granted, or mentioned, or intended so to be, with the appurtenances unto the said Peter Mattern Sr. his heirs and assigns, To the only proper use and behoof of him the said Peter Mattern Sr. his heirs and assigns forever. Provided always nevertheless, that if the said Nicholas Ramer, his heirs, Executors, or Administrators shall and do well, and truly pay unto the said Peter Mattern Sr. his Executors,

Administrators or assigns, the aforesaid Debt or sum of three hundred and thirty seven pounds, ten shillings & six pence, On the day and time herein before mentioned and appointed for payment thereof with Lawful Interest thereof for the same, according to the condition of the said recided obligation, without further delay, and without any deduction. Defaleation, or abatement to be made of anything for or in respect of any Taxes, Charges, or Assessments, whatsoever then, and from thenceforth, as well this present Indenture, and the astate thereby granted as the said Recided obligation shall Cease, Determine, and become absalutely, Null and Void, to all interests and purposses; Anything heretofore Contained to the contrary, in anywise, Notwithstanding. In Witness whereof the said Nicholas Ramer, has hereunto set his hand and seal, this day and year first above Written

Nicholas Ramer

Seal

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us: Michl Druckenmiller
Barbara X Druckenmiller Received the day of the date of the above written indenture, of the said Peter Mattern Sr. the sum of three hundred and thirty seven pounds, ten shillings and ten pence, It being the consideration above mentioned in full, I say received per me Witness present Nicholas Ramer, Northumberland County, as on the 14th day of June, 1817, before me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the Peace, in and for the County came Nicholas Ramer, and acknowledged the above written indenture to be his act and deed, and desired the same to be recorded as such according to Law, In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, the said day and year.

Michl Druckenmiller

seal

Recorded the 27th of January, 1718

James McFarland Recorder

MARIA MATTERN FAMILY

3/8 MARIA MATTERN b. 12-1-1790 d. 3-29-1849
Nicholas Ramer b. 8-3-1790 d. 3-27-1868 M. 1814
 D/O Peter Jr. & Catharina Mattern. S/O Mattias & Maria Susanna Ramer. Maria was born Maxatawny Township, Berks Co., Pa. and died Eldred Township, Schuylkill Co. Nicholas was born Greenwich Township, Berks Co. and died Eldred Township, Schuylkill Co. Married Upper Mahantongo Township, Sch. County, Pa. Both are buried Zions Cemetery, Pitman, Pa. They were faithful communicants at Kehler's Zion Lutheran Church.

Children: Maria Susanna b. 8-1816
 Salome b. 6-27-1818 d. 7-5-1857
 Caroline b. 5-1-1819
 George b. 3-18-1821
 William b. 4-20-1823 d. 1899
 Joshua b. 7-19-1825
 Isaac b. 8-3-1827
 Magdalena b. 11-13-1829
 Joseph b. 1-6-1832 d. 8-7-1900

THE MARIA RAMER SCHNEIDER FAMILY

4/1 MARIA SUSANNA RAMER b. 8-1816
George Schneider b. 10-28-1817 d. 3-22-1874
 D/O Nicholas & Maria Mattern Ramer. Lived Eldred Township, Schuylkill Co., Pa. George S/O George Heinrich & Maria Ramer Schneider. Lived Eldred Township. George buried St. Paul's Cemetery, Pitman, Pa. Is Maria buried there also ?

Children: William R. b. 1842 d. 1-5-1904
 George R. b. 2-12-1844 d. 10-18-1911
 Maria b. 4-2-1850 d. 3-19-1868
 John R. b. 11-12-1852 d. 12-3-1933
 Susannah b. 12-11-1854 d. 11-13-1935
 Susan Jane b. 1856 d. 1924

THE WILLIAM R. SNYDER FAMILY

5/1 WILLIAM R. SNYDER b. 1842 d. 1-5-1904 age 62,5,4
Martha L. Lewis b. 1846 d. 11-26-1919 age 73 yrs
 S/O George & Maria Susanna Ramer Snyder. Buried Friedens Cemetery, Hegins, Pa. Martha D/O David Lewis of Ashland.

Children: Emma D. b.

THE EMMA SNYDER MAURER FAMILY

6/1 EMMA D. SNYDER b.
William H. Maurer b.
 D/O William & Martha Lewis Snyder. Buried Snyder's

Children: Mark b. 1899 twin
 Clark b. 1899 d. 1960 twin
 J. Jay b.
 Ethel b.
 Mae b. ?



GEORGE RAMER & WIFE REBECCA WOLFGANG
 Left son George Jr., on right daughter Sarah Ramer Ueager

THE GEORGE RAMER SR. FAMILY

4/4 GEORGE RAMER SR. b. 3-18-1821 d.
 Rebecca Wolfgang b. 8-11-1834 d. ca. 1871 M. 7-13-1858
 S/O Nicholas & Maria Mattern Ramer. Live Eldred Township,
 Schuylkill County, Pa. Lived in Lewisburg, Pa. in 1871,
 because that is where their daughter Mary Jane was born.
 Elizabeth D/O Jacob & Margaretha Rebecca Kieffer Wolfgang.
 They were married at St. Johns Reformed Church, Shamokin, Pa.
 George baptized Howerters. His sponsors were Heinrich and
 Esther Mattern.

Children: George Jr.	b. 1859	d. 1925
Sarah	b. 9-21-1861	d. 2-13-1944
Elizabeth	b. 11-30-1863	d. 6-28-1946
Hannah	b. 1-14-1865	d. 11-9-1920
Mary Jane	b. 12-7-1871	d. 7-4-1949
Isaac	b.	

THE GEORGE RAMER JR. FAMILY

5/1 GEORGE RAMER JR. b. 1859 d. 1925
Alby Weikel b. 10-18-1868 d. 5-2-1959
 S/O George & Rebecca Wolfgang Ramer. Lived East Cameron, Pa.
 Alby D/O Jacob & Salome Kerstetter Weikel. She died of a
 stroke. Married 7-13-1889 at St. Johns Reformed, Shamokin.
 Both are buried Reformed Church Cemetery, Gowen City, Pa.
 They died East Cameron Township, Northumberland County, Pa.
 Children: Charles b. 1889 d. 1960
 Elizabeth M. b. 5-10-1891 d. 3-14-1956
 Harry b. 3-16-1893 d. 4-1-1913
 William b.
 Minnie b.
 Pearl b. d. 3-29-1968
 Joseph b.
 Carrie b.
 Isaac b. 1907 d. 1934
 Evva b.
 Ivy b.

THE CHARLES RAMER FAMILY

6/1 CHARLES RAMER b. 1889 d. 1960
Ollie May b. 1888 d. 1926
 S/O George & Alby Weikel Ramer Jr. Lived Gowen City, Pa.



Daughters of George Ramer Jr.
 L. to R. Elizabeth, Minnie



Harry Ramer
 S/O George Ramer Jr.

THE ELIZABETH RAMER KERSTETTER FAMILY

- 6/2 ELIZABETH "LIZZIE" RAMER b. 5-10-1891 d. 3-14-1956
Henry W. Kerstetter b. 3-30-1876 d. 1-7-1939
D/O George & Alby Weikel Ramer Jr. Married 5-9-1914. They
lived Gowen City, Pa.

HARRY RAMER

- 6/3 HARRY RAMER b. 3-16-1893 d. 4-11-1913
S/O George & Alby Weikel Ramer Jr. unmarried.

THE WILLIAM RAMER FAMILY

- 6/4 WILLIAM RAMER b.
Lillian Bird b.
S/O George & Alby Weikel
Ramer Jr. Lived Rome,
New York.



On Right:

William Ramer

S/O George Ramer Jr.

& wife Abby Weikel

THE MINNIE RAMER STUTZMAN FAMILY

- 6/5 MINNIE RAMER b.
Howard Stutzman b.
D/O George & Alby Weikel Ramer Jr. Resided Reading, Pa.

THE PEARL RAMER FICHTHORN FAMILY

- 6/6 PEARL RAMER b. d. 3-29-1968
Allen Fichthorn b. d. 2-24-1964
D/O George & Alby Weikel Ramer Jr. Lived Doutyville, Pa.

JOSEPH RAMER

- 6/7 JOSEPH RAMER b. d.
S/O George & Alby Weikel Ramer Jr. Buried Lavelle, Pa.
Children: Bernice b.

- 7/1 BERNICE RAMER b.
Eister b.
D/O Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ramer. Resides in Lavelle, Pa.