

# The Jacobsburg Record

MAY/JUNE 1982

VOL. X, NO. 3

## NINTH ANNUAL SUMMER CRAFT FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1982, 11:30 - 6:00

4-H CENTER, 4 MILES NORTH OF NAZARETH--BROAD ST. EXTENDED

The attached sheet challenges each one of us to make this year's Festival the biggest success yet. Notice we need help the night before to set up and we need help the same night to clean up.

Please be sure to indicate how you will help, sign the sheet and return to Hilton Rahn, Jr. The address is at the top of the paper.

Don't forget to use your patron ticket for free parking. The charge is \$2.00.

## CRAFTERS AND ACTION GALORE

Mary Lou Audenreid has sent out 148 invitations to crafters. New exhibitors include Phyllis Bechtold of Walnutport who will show antique dolls; Marguerite Callaghan will demonstrate etching on eggs by onion skin; Dale W. Ott, Junior High School science teacher, will demonstrate the carving of song birds in their natural wildlife habitat.

Included will be other popular show stoppers: Carl Becker exhibiting live bees at work; Evelyn Daniels demonstrating Theorem painting on velvet; the Engelbrechts with stained glass; Harriet Fatzinger and her calico creations; James Hess with chair caning; Eva Smith and her corn-husk dolls; Diane Warner into herb growing and usage; Anna Shook with her beaded shell craft; the Russells with their spinning demonstrations and natural dyeing techniques; Walter Shunk and his pottery skills; Carroll Tobias and his magic in silver smithing; and many many others will be present.

## FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT

Althea Neuner and Betty Morris are in charge of good--beef barbecues, hot dogs with sauerkraut, and ice cream. Ellis Neuner and Matt Morris will be on hand with draught birch beer.

Carolyn Metzgar and husband will be calling you for baked goods. Caroline Vickrey again will have many plants for sale.

Hilton Rahn, Jr., serving his second year as chairman (hint for volunteers for 1983) has arranged for the Nazareth Square dancers to present two programs, one at 2:30 and the second at 3:30. A group of local musicians headed by John Vickrey with their stringed instruments will present early American airs. There will be tomahawk throwing (Claude Jones has been practicing in his back yard), story telling, and two free bus trips, one at 12:30 and the other at 3:30, to the Lopresti archaeological Jacobsburg and Boulton digs, with Joe Lopresti himself as tour guide. Minilectures on the digs will be given at 2:00 and 4:00 by Virginia Lopresti.

-----  
Open House at the Henry Homestead: June 27, July 25, August 22,  
September 26, October 24.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT, SUMMER, 1981, Cont'd.  
Virginia Lopresti

(Virginia and Joe Lopresti are investigating an old forge mill and house next to it along the Bushkill Creek)

When our curiosity could take us nowhere in the mill, we moved to the east. The first step was to remove the traces of our jungle, and I was surprised to see the tops of stone walls. Some garbage has been dumped in this area but not so much as in the mill. An area was leveled between the mill and the home of the grist mill owner and operator. We had to make a safe walkway for our six handicapped boys.

The boys soon opened a steep path to the roadway for a faster approach to the cars parked at the side of the macadam. There usually was some needed tool left behind--a level or a brush cutter. Often helping hands were full of shovels, trowels, colanders, and the gallons of water needed to wash hands before lunch and break times (a break for pretzels and lemonade). Again we found small trees growing inside the foundation.

Another box elder was near where we supposed the south wall to be. Again it was one trunk and root with many small branches growing from it. It had no height because it had been trimmed many times as it was under the power company right of way. A day and a half of removing trash proved that the tree was growing next to a stone wall and 35 in. from the south wall of the home.

When William Henry II made guns at the mill, he did not live at the site but in Nazareth. We are assuming he built this stone structure as part of his gun making operations, according to a letter he wrote to the United States Government in 1798. We would like to prove this by our archaeological investigations. We know the building was used as home even after the close of the mill in 1915. Our exploring uncovered the fact that the City of Easton had bulldozed the southeast and the southwest corners of the home. According to a picture taken of the cottage in 1915, the doorway was near the southwest corner, but we found a huge stone doorsill 6 ft. lower and in the east half of the building. J.A. (Lopresti) and the boys worked it inch by inch back up to the level of the 19th century roadway.

Many stones and some garbage were removed from the inside of the laid building. The stone had been up with stone and lime mortar. A base for a fireplace or a forge fire was exposed at a right angle to the north wall and attached to it. The south wall of this configuration was the side of the first or ground level fireplace. A large piece of bar iron, 30 x 2 x 1 in. was removed from the lower part of the inside of this building. From the size and shape of this bar, we are assuming it was a piece of stock to be used in gun manufacturing. We dug up three pieces of wood left behind that contained early 19th century nails. The iron content of the nails had been absorbed by the wood and helped to preserve the wood 1 to 2 in. from the point of contact. After having exposed to the sun, the rest of the wood soon evaporated.

In the east half of the inside wall, a niche was discovered. It was 20 in. wide and 58 in. high. After we removed buckets of ashes, we discovered it to go about 3 ft. to the natural slate shale of the hillside. It was wet at the bottom which helped to preserve a wood trough. The wood extended across the room to the north wall at the exact angle that

Joe's divining rods had indicated after a visitor to the dig informed us that as a youngster he had entered the basement to secure delicious very cold drinking water. Another visitor informed us there was a very good spring in the home. When the road was widened and raised in the early 1930's by a WPA project, a blast of the hillside caused the spring to disappear.

An older visitor during the summer told us there were stone steps from the road level to the cellar level. We could find no trace of these steps. On the west wall we dug an area 5 ft. wide and 5 ft. deep. We found cut bones we suspect were buried by dogs. We found many small pieces of early English china. The shards of redware and slipware were scarce, as were glass bits. Stones from the collapsed walls were in abundance, and bits of rusted iron were recovered--some were nails and many others were unidentified. The south wall was investigated on the outside about 3 ft. from the wall at the southwest corner, but only 1½ ft. at the southwest corner because of the steep bank to the roadway. Outside the southeast corner the natural slate had been chiseled 10 in. to the south and 19 in. to the east to allow the south wall of the house to be constructed of stones. There was a triangle of slate across the southeast corner of the building, and the floor in the southwest corner was very uneven because of the natural shale floor. The outside east wall had been disturbed by the boys when they helped prepare the area, so very little evidence was gathered there.

(To be continued)

ED. NOTE: These boys, I'm sure, will have many pleasant memories of their association with Virginia and Joe at the summer digs. Joe warns them they must be careful of their language in the presence of a lady, and the furnished lemonade and pretzels are a nice touch. We hope the experience is rewarding to the Loprestis as well!

\* \* \* \* \*

#### MORE DIGS NOTES

The Loprestis report a recent wind storm took down a tree that broke part of the fireplace at the Jacobsburg Inn site. Work there is attracting a good deal of attention.

Virginia and Joe report that recently when a ditch was dug for drainage, a fire backer was found. Virginia is on the trail to identify same.

- - - - -

#### HOMESTEAD DUCK HOUSE

Joe Lopresti has finished the job of laying electrical lines underground to furnish lighting at the Duck House. An application for inspection has been filed. After the OK, Joe will go ahead with outlet boxes, and next the dusk-to-dawn light will be installed. Ellis Neuner and Matt Morris have been involved on this project. Everyone is happy to see progress here because it means the exhibit area in the Carriage House for Virginia's artifacts is close to completion.

(Recently the Research Committee voted to print excerpts from Matthew Schropp Henry's History, in edited form, taking those portions that relate to Boulton and Jacobsburg. Charles M. Sandwick, Sr., is doing the editing. This is the first offering.)

### THE VILLAGE OF FILETOWN

By Matthew Schropp Henry\*

Filetown is about half a mile beyond Cherry Hill on the road from Nazareth to Wind Gap, and contains twelve to fifteen dwellings and shops. The name is descriptive of the occupation of most of the inhabitants, the making of door locks, gun locks and other articles in the manufacture of which the file is the principal tool.

About 1800 there was a large two-story stone house erected here, which in numerous instances became the "asylum" of such of the Moravian Brethren who transgressed the rules in regard to the mingling of the sexes, for, however, moral and proper such companionship was, preparatory to marriage, it nevertheless subjected the transgressors to the "consilium abeundi" which in all cases was sure to follow a transgression of the rule. The male and female therefore were under the necessity of being married immediately: the time of grace given was very short, sometimes not more than twenty-four hours.

In such cases, which about 1805 to 1810 or thereabouts were of frequent occurrence, the affected couples were for a time granted by the owner of this house an asylum until they could furnish other lodgings for themselves. Many of these refugees purchased lots in the neighborhood of the "Asylum," about which this community was formed.

In subsequent years many of these cast off Moravians, upon petition for readmission into the Moravian Society, were admitted as members of the Moravian congregation at Schoeneck, which even at the present time consists mostly of such refugee members or their descendants.

Some of the first settlers in the village were Christian and Joseph Giersch, Samuel Snyder, and David Roth. The latter became a militia colonel and was at Marcus Hook, near Philadelphia, in the War of 1812. In 1815 and 1816 Roth was elected a member of the Assembly from Northampton County.

(An edited passage from the author's Manuscript History of Northampton County, 1851. - C. M. S., Sr.)

---

\*Matthew Schropp Henry (1790-1862), builder of the first blast furnace in Northampton County at Jacobsburg, was himself a "refugee from Nazareth" who in 1819 had eloped to Easton with his first cousin, Ann Catharine Henry (1794-1833), where they were married by a Lutheran pastor. They were later admitted to the Moravian congregation at Schoeneck. His statement that the membership there (as of 1851) "consists mostly of such refugee members or their descendants," is an exaggeration.

## HISTORICAL RESEARCH

## THE FAMILY OF MATTHAEUS AND MARIA ALLEMAN

By Charles M. Sandwick, Sr.

Matthaeus Alleman (called "Mattes") was born in Hebron (now Lebanon), at that time in Lancaster County but now in Lebanon County, 22 Dec 1766, the youngest child of Dorst and Verona (Johe) Alleman. When still under the age of five, he came with his parents to Friedensthal, Forks Township, and soon afterward to the Rose Inn, the location of which is now in Bushkill Township. Dorst was a successful farmer who brought up his only living son to follow the same occupation. On 18 Oct 1795 Matthaeus Alleman married Maria Edmonds (also called Mary) who was born at Gnadenhuetten (now Weissport) 2 Jan 1776, daughter of John and Barbara (Ehrenhardt) Edmonds.

John Edmonds, whose father William had been storekeeper at the log store on the Rose Inn property from 1762 to 1772, was asked by Dorst Alleman to conduct a store in the same facility. The stock and fixtures had been taken to Nazareth, but Dorst contrived to equip the store to continue in business under the management of John Edmonds. It will be recalled from a previous article that the log building had both an apartment and a store, each with its own cellar; so it is likely that the Edmonds family lived there until the structure was struck by lightning and totally destroyed toward the close of the eighteenth century.

About 1800 Matthaeus Alleman had a large stone house built on the west side of the road from Cherry Hill through Jacobsburg to Wind Gap. This house, still occupied, which became the nucleus of Filetown, was intended to contain a store. About 1815 Christopher Benedict Benade and his family moved there from Nazareth. Benade, as executor of the will of Dorst Alleman, had confirmed the Rose Inn tract, then containing a little more than 171 acres, to Matthaeus Alleman as residuary legatee, by a deed dated 28 Dec 1803.

Matthaeus and Maria (Edmonds) Alleman had sixteen children, all of whom were born in what became Bushkill Township, but the first fourteen were born in what, until 1813, was still a part of Plainfield Township. (1) Rebecca was born 25 Feb 1797 and died on 9 July the same year. Later another child was given the same name. (2) Margaretha, born 25 Apr 1798, died 30 June of that year. (3) Charlotte, born 28 July 1799, died 16 Jan 1879 in her 80th year. In October 1820 she married John Joseph Ihrle who was born in Easton 1 Jan 1795 and died in Bushkill Township 21 Sep 1823, son of Conrad, Jr., and Christina (Seip) Ihrle. Joseph and Charlotte Ihrle had one child, Wilhelmina Olivia, born 10 June 1823, who became the wife of Charles Ochs of Bushkill Township. In 1850 Ochs was a cigar maker, in 1860 a painter, and in 1866 he was employed in the stockery of the Henry Gun Factory.

(4) Rebecca, born 20 Oct 1800, died 24 July 1872, unmarried. (5) Thomas, born 11 Dec 1801, gave his occupation as gunsmith in 1838. In the 1850 census of Bushkill Township he was listed as a filer, living with his brother Charles and his sisters Rebecca

and Paulina in the home of their widowed sister Charlotte Ihrie (spelled Sharlotta Ehrit by the census taker). We have no further information about Thomas.

(6) William (Wilhelm) was born 24 Dec 1802 and died 28 Feb 1867. He married 14 Dec 1828 Johanna Elisabeth Colver (Anna E.) who was born in what is now Bushkill Township 18 May 1810 and died 17 Mar 1882, daughter of Jacob and Catharina (Steiner) Colver. In the interval 1828-1834 several entries in the registers of the Moravian congregation at Schoeneck give the occupation of William as "schreiner" (carpenter and joiner). In 1838 he said he was a gunsmith. The census of Bushkill Township in 1850 and again in 1860 lists him as a pump maker. William and Johanna Elisabeth had three daughters. The first, Anna Maria, was born 21 Jan 1830; died 23 Feb 1861; married 24 May 1849 Christian Frederick Martin, Jr., who was born in Vienna, Austria, 2 Oct 1825 and died 15 Nov 1888, maker of guitars and other musical instruments, son of Christian Frederick and Lucia Ottilia (Kuehle) Martin. The second, Louisa Aurora, was born 13 Mar 1834; died 29 Apr 1911; married 18 Mar 1851 William Henry Moore who was born 6 Jun 1828 and died 18 Nov 1900, son of Peter and Juliane (Kamer) Moore. The third, Sabina Catharina, was born 6 Nov 1837; died 2 May 1908; married 30 Mar 1856 Albin Beller who was born 21 May 1833 and died 17 Mar 1906. Beller was listed in the 1860 census of Bushkill Township as a lockfiler.

(7) Anna Olivia was born 11 Apr 1804. We have no record of her death. On 23 Apr 1837 she married John Kraus, 22, "from the beech-woods." In 1838 he gave his occupation as farmer, and their residence as Wayne County, Pa. (8) Jacob was born 6 Apr 1805. In 1838 he was a cordwainer, residing in Upper Nazareth Township. (A cordwainer, originally a worker in Cordovan leather, usually was a shoemaker). (9) Anna Paulina was born 30 Apr 1806 and died 22 Jun 1879, unmarried. (10) Maria Angelica was born 5 May 1807 and died 9 Sep 1807.

(11) August was born 5 Sep 1808 and was reported to have died by 1861. We have no other information about him. (12) Anna Wilhelmina was born 19 Oct 1809 and died 17 Apr 1810. (13) John (Johannes) was born 13 Sep 1810 and died at Langhorne, Pa., 12 Jan 1850, unmarried. In 1838 he was a gunsmith in Philadelphia. (14) Charles (Carl) was born 29 Jan 1812 and died 29 Jun 1854, unmarried. In 1838 he was a cordwainer in Bushkill Township. (15) James was born 19 Nov 1813 and died 27 Jun 1814.

(16) Benjamin was born 3 Mar 1815. Sometime before 1848 he married Sabeine Louise Colver, who was born in Bushkill Township 9 Dec 1825, youngest daughter of Jacob and Catharina (Steiner) Colver. They had at least one child, Albert, who was born in Bushkill Township about 1847 or 1848. Benjamin's occupation was listed at various times from 1838 to 1870 as lockfiler. Throughout that period he resided in Bushkill Township. Except for the baptisms of Benjamin Alleman and Sabeine Louise Colver, recorded in Book 2 of the registers of Schoeneck Moravian Church, we have been unable to trace them through the church registers nor to find any record of their deaths. On 9 Aug 1866 they sold their property in Bushkill Township to Richard Christ for \$1400. In January 1866 both Benjamin

and his son Albert were listed as filers in the records of the Henry Gun Factory. After the 1870 census of Bushkill Township we have found no other record of Benjamin's family.

Few, if any, are the persons named Alleman now living whose ancestors were the pioneers Dorst and Verona, but their descendants bearing other surnames are numerous.

#### A CORRECTION

In our article entitled "The Colver Family of Bushkill Township," which appeared in the Jacobsburg Record, Vol. X., No. 1, January/February 1982, we identified the wife of Harry J. Colver as Laura Geiser. We have since learned that Stettler, not Geiser, was her maiden surname. Henry James Colver (Harry), born 24 Dec 1883, son of William R. and Ellen M. (Giersch) Colver, married Laura Geiser Stettler, daughter of Amandus H. and Amanda C. (Geiser) Stettler, Adda Whitesell Asch noticed our error and was so kind as to bring it to our attention. Thank you, Adda!

#### GIFTS ACKNOWLEDGED

We have received from the Staten Island Nitzschke cousins, Eleanor and F. Grace, of Mary Henry Stites, a chest possibly dating from the late 17th century. The Nitzschkes are related to the Henry family through the Wolles. You will remember the Nitzschkes also gave us the 1832 Sampler done by Maria Wollé when she was 12 and attending Moravian Academy, as well as the hand-crafted braided rugs now in the Homestead hallway.

The chest looks to be one of a kind and could have been brought over with the first settlers from what is now Czechoslovakia. That area was pretty much the fomenting ground of the first Moravians. The chest lid is one plank, and where through the years termites have worked, we can see one of the hand-fashioned wood pencil spikes that fasten the narrow moldings to the main boards. In this instance, termites did us a favor! It is a good-sized chest so that the tree from which that plank lid was fashioned must have been a monster.

In addition, the Nitzschkes have given the Society three prized plank chairs. We appreciate so much these gifts and say a big thank you for them.

The old chest we've been exhibiting in the Homestead Kitchen is being refinished by Claude Jones. This is the chest we think dates back to the mid-18th century. When Claude finally got the lock opened, inside were only two shoe buttons and spider webs.

#### WE HAD A WEDDING!

On May 15, the Homestead garden was the beautiful setting for the wedding of two veterinarians. Dr. Denise A. Conover became the bride of Dr. Charles Reinheimer.

We extend congratulations and best wishes for much happiness. We are pleased the wedding is one more happy memory associated with the Henry Homestead.

## JACOBSBURG PARK SOIREEES

Dale Prinkey, Jacobsburg Park Superintendent has announced The Express (Easton), in cooperation with the Jacobsburg State Park and the Music Performances Trust Fund are sponsoring a concert series, "Twilight at Jacobsburg: A Series of Soiree Musicales Along the Bushkill" on Sunday evenings throughout the summer. The performances are being coordinated by Local 577 American Federation of Musicians, Bangor/Stroudsburg.

The concerts will start at 7:30 at one of three locations within the park: The Benade House, Henry's Woods, or the soon-to-be completed park amphitheatre. Come to the parking lot, 1 mile west of Rt. 33.

Tentative schedule: June 20, Gina Bertucci Trio, chamber music, flute/cello/violin; July 11, Paulette Gallo, classical harpist; July 18, Sheila Walter Trio, chamber music; August 8, Nancy and Spencer Reed, jazz and pop guitarists; August 15, Lee Katzman Quintet, jazz and pop music; August 29, Pocono Chamber Orchestra, Steve Mathiesen, director; September 12; Water Gap Dixieland Band, Roger Acker, director.

## CALL FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Dale Prinkey has also put out a call for able-bodied persons, 55 years and older to work on projects connected with the historic restoration of the park.

Projects will include planting an 18th century garden, landscaping, split-rail fence making, archaeological investigation, and possibly historic interpretation.

Please contact Dale for further particulars. There is an income limitation.

## NAZARETH DAY, JULY 24

Please, please get items to Betty Morris ahead of time for sale at the Society table. All items are most welcome--look around the house. Something you might not want, someone else might like better. Get those things to Betty early for pricing.

## NEWS AND NOTES

The Mary Henry Stites carriage will be moved from the Stites barn to the Homestead Carriage House.

\* \* \* \* \*

Claude Jones located an old farm sleigh belonging to Mr. Pail. It is a two-horse sleigh with cab. The Society has purchased it for \$115, delivered. Plans are to put it in the Homestead barn which will be secured.

\* \* \* \* \*

Still about 90 unpaid memberships! Dues were due January 1. Notices have been sent.

\* \* \* \* \*

In order to include "a next generation: on the Society Board, John Schlamp has suggested enlarging the number to a maximum of 25. The By-laws would be amended.



# DIRECTORY - 1982

## Board of Directors

JOHN J. SCHLAMP - President  
 MATTHEW K. MORRIS - Vice President  
 ELIZABETH L. MORRIS - Secretary  
 MARGARET H. TAYLOR - Treasurer  
 JANET A. GUM  
 MARY LOU AUDENDRIED  
 JOSEPH T. DIGERLANDO  
 JOSEPH A. LOPRESTI  
 ELLIS A. NEUNER  
 HILTON N. RAHN, JR.  
 CHARLES M. SANDWICK, SR.  
 LOUISE K. YOUNG  
 MARY HENRY STITES - EMERITUS

Nazareth 759-0302  
 Boulton 759-0757  
 Boulton 759-0757  
 Easton 252-1312  
 Nazareth 759-1862  
 Nazareth 759-4649  
 Wind Gap 759-7239  
 Stockertown 759-1580  
 Boulton 759-1764  
 Bethlehem 868-1789  
 Easton 252-1290  
 Nazareth 759-4610

## Committee Assignments

Archaeology - Joseph & Virginia Lopresti  
 Corresponding Secretary- Joy A. Betz  
 Editor, Jacobsburg Record - Charlotte C. Sayre  
 Homestead - Kathryn M. Schlamp  
     Cataloguer - Elizabeth L. Morris  
     Curators: Contents - Dorothy Law  
                 Gunnery - Albert Toth  
 Exhibits - Virginia Lopresti  
 Flower Garden - Beatrice Pritchard  
                 Jane Gilbert, Mary Henry Stites  
 Herb Garden - Diane D. Warner  
 Maintenance - Ellis A. Neuner  
 Hospitality - Althea Neuner  
                 Mary Banks  
 Membership - Margaret Taylor  
 Music in the Woods - Dale W. Prinkey  
 Photography - Reginald M. Banks, Jr.  
 Program - Janet A. Gum  
 Publicity - Louise K. Young  
 Research - Charles M. Sandwick, Sr.  
 Summer Craft Festival - Hilton N. Rahn, Jr.  
                                 Mary Lou Audendried

Stockertown 759-1580  
 Nazareth 759-3507  
 Easton 253-9516  
 Nazareth 759-0302  
 Boulton 759-0751  
 Bethlehem 866-7910  
 Nazareth 759-2153  
 Stockertown 759-1580  
 Nazareth 759-4905  
 Nazareth 759-3555  
 Boulton 759-1764  
 Boulton 759-1764  
 Nazareth 759-6696  
 Easton 252-1315  
 Nazareth 759-7616  
 Nazareth 759-6696  
 Nazareth 759-1862  
 Nazareth 759-4610  
 Easton 252-1290  
 Bethlehem 868-1789  
 Nazareth 759-4649

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Student	\$2.50	Sustaining	\$10.00	Contributing	\$15.00
Individual	\$5.00	Family	\$12.50	Organizations	\$25.00

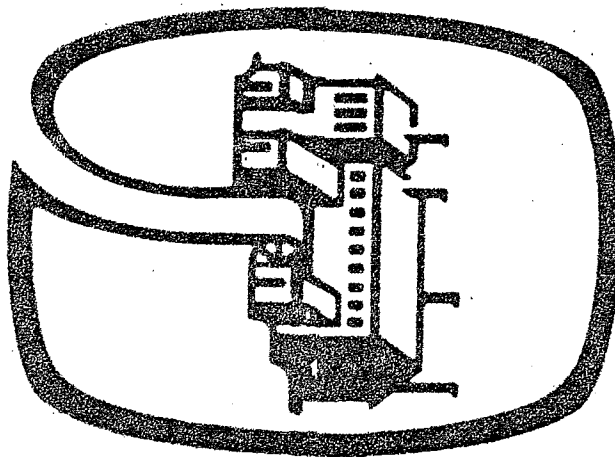
### Name Contributions

Tannery Club	\$100	Boulton Club	\$500	Henry Rifle Club	\$1000
--------------	-------	--------------	-------	------------------	--------

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this slip with your check made payable to Jacobsburg Historical Society. Mail to: Miss Margaret H. Taylor, 733 Paxinosa Ave., Easton, PA 18042. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

JACOBSBURG  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



Jacobsburg Historical Society  
Box 345  
Newereth, Pennsylvania 18064

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
Newereth, Pa.  
Permit No. 10