

The Jacobsburg Record

MARCH/APRIL 1985

VOL. XIII, NO. 2

SEMIANNUAL SPRING MEETING - TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 7:30 P.M.

COLLEGE HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL (DOWNSTAIRS)
BRODHEAD AND MONROE STREETS, EASTON

SPEAKER: DALE HARRISON

REFRESHMENTS

How his wife keeps any blankets in the house is a question because Dale Harrison, Easton, will show some of the fascinating articles he has made from blankets--e.g., the capote (long hooded coat), leggings, even rifle cases. His Possible Bags, made from leather, are just that--capable of carrying everything possible--handy from Frontier Days to the present. He makes canteens from gourds and all sorts of bead items, as well as household goods such as chairs, but these from wood! Come to admire Dale's calico and muslin shirts.

Harrison, billed as a Buckskinner Mountain Man, recreates both the Eastern Frontiersman and the Western Mountain Man. He is a Scout, for example, with the Northampton Militia and has been a part of our Jacobsburg encampment. In fact, he is an encampment devotee, a dedicated follower whenever and however he can get to one.

Dale is a graduate of Tusculum College, Greeneville, Tenn. He completed Master's work at the University of Mississippi and has done additional study at Lehigh University. He teaches history at the Nazareth Area High School.

This Spring meeting is always our informal fun time together. Plan to be with us on April 23.

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We've all had our notices about the May 14 Gettysburg trip, and we hope everyone is planning to come. This will be the definitive Gettysburg tour. Remember the May 1 deadline to get checks in.

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Remember the first Open House at the Henry Homestead, 1985 season, is April 28, 2 - 5 p.m. We expect new brochures to be ready.

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Throughout the membership, John Schlamp is trying to locate someone with marketing experience to handle the Society's first publication venture, "Jacsburg," by Charles Sandwick, Sr. We of course expect the book to sell itself, but a guiding hand is needed. Please volunteer to John Schlamp.

1984 FIELD JOURNAL, CONTINUED

Virginia Lopresti, Archaeologist

Again the Nazareth Neighborhood Girl Scouts held a day camp in Jacobsburg State Park. During the third week of July every morning one group would hike to the Jacobsburg Inn site and, armed with trowels, would eagerly search the backyard for hidden treasure. The rich dark soil there was ideal for growing day lilies and their roots were a hindrance, but the soil yielded few artifacts. Still the leaders insist the digging is the high point of their camping year.

During the eight weeks we spent on the summer dig, about 25 5-ft. squares were inspected from the southwest corner of the stone building. Our volunteers were much more interested in the search than in the boring dishwashing job we had to do on the artifacts. This left those tasks to Theresa and me. Theresa loved matching the broken pieces and gluing them back together. She did not mind marking them with our improved 1984 pen. That left to me the job of identifying the illusive background of hundreds of bits and pieces and recording them on our file cards. An unusual number of rainy days kept us working at the Homestead's carriage house. There were many housekeeping jobs there necessitated by the incomplete work on this facility. The boxes of artifacts stored on the floor over the stable area collect dust, dirt, mouse nests, and squirrels' walnuts. The artifacts from 1982 and 1983 had been stored in the carriage storing area. Many of them were stacked on the damp brick floor. Every summer we scrounge new dry boxes from Nazareth Pharmacy and the local liquor store. In repacking this material we delight in examining anew the treasures collected previously. As a result of this, we were able to join two halves of a cup from the 1840's. It was handleless, utilitarian ware, white with green dots.

We had boxes of material from late 1983 summer still to be washed and this was done on those rainy days. A rather large redware pot was partially restored to its original shape. About a third of an orange-ware pot was a pleasure to recreate. We had the bottom half of a salt-glazed stoneware crock put together when it began to look familiar. Rummaging in a 1982 box, we found the other half and promptly fitted them together with Elmer's Glueall. This treasure was minus four small side sherds and one base piece. It is $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. tall and $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter. Its main point of interest is its glaze--three-fourths of the side walls have a decided gray color and the other fourth has a yellow tinge. But this was not the end of the tale. The first weekend in August, it was necessary for the Loprestis to make a quick trip to Missouri. Professor Hope Luhman graciously supervised the work and the PIC employees. One day was spent at the Archaeology Lab of Muhlenberg College. There this stoneware crock was soaked in warm water. Being held together by Elmer's, it soon separated. It was dried and reglued with a more permanent glue and is now a real "neat" archaeological showpiece.

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Matthew Morris and his brother Joe have donated to the Henry Homestead the old-time granite carriage block from the time of their grandfather. Mary Henry Stites found an iron hitching post at an antique shop so that now the two items are an authentic sight--the proper place for milady to alight from her carriage. Thank you, men!

FILETOWN REVISITED

By Charles M. Sandwick, Sr.

The village of Filetown has been mentioned from time to time in The Jacobsburg Record. There will undoubtedly be some repetition of facts in the present article, but we believe it to be necessary for the sake of completeness. Filetown, a settlement which was outside the Jacobsburg tract, about a mile southwest of it, had an important role in the history of the region, for it was there that the filing of parts for gun locks, door locks and other small metal objects was done at home by many of the inhabitants. It was about half a mile north-northeast of Cherry Hill on the road from Nazareth through Jacobsburg to Wind Gap, and contained at one time about fifteen dwellings and shops.

About 1800 Matthaëus Alleman had a large stone house built in that locality. It was intended to serve both as a residence and a store. Matthew S. Henry, in his Manuscript History of Northampton County, told how this house became, from time to time, a temporary haven for young couples who had been dismissed from the fellowship of the Moravian congregation at Nazareth, for clandestinely dating and becoming engaged to marry, without the consent of the church authorities. For that reason, the house came to be known as the Asylum.

A number of these "refugees from Nazareth," as Henry called them, bought lots and built their homes in the neighborhood of the Asylum. Because so many of the settlers became filers by trade, the village was called Filetown. The skills of the Schlossfeiler were in demand at the Henry enterprises, first at Jacobsburg and later at Boulton.

Many of the so-called refugees, in Filetown and elsewhere in the Jacobsburg district, were later admitted as members of the Moravian Congregation at Schoeneck. Matthew S. Henry's statement that the membership there (as of 1851) "consists mostly of such refugee members or their descendants," may be an exaggeration.

In 1815 the Asylum became the permanent home of the family of Benedict Benade, a brother-in-law of Matthaëus Alleman. Christopher Benedict Benade was born 26 Sep 1752 in Milkel, near Bauzen, in the Oberlausitz (Upper Lusatia), the fifth son of Johann and Christiana Frederica (Faber) Benade. His father was the Lutheran pastor at Klix in Upper Lusatia. In 1771 Benedict was compelled against his will to learn the goldsmith's trade. He later acquired superior skill as a decorative painter, a field in which he gained recognition as an artist. In 1793 he came to Pennsylvania, made his way to Bethlehem, and afterward to Nazareth. He was married at Nazareth, 21 Sep 1794, by Rev. Reichel of the Moravian Church, to Elisabeth Alleman of the Schoeneck congregation, a daughter of Dorst and Verona (Yohe) Alleman.

The family record of Benedict and Elisabeth (Alleman) Benade was included in an article about the Alleman family which appeared in the March/April 1982 issue of The Jacobsburg Record. Briefly, they had

three daughters, all born in Nazareth. They were Dorothea, who married first Heinrich Stauber, and second Gabriel Romig; Anna Rebecca, who married first Peter Hay, and second Christian Renatus Romig; and Henriette, who remained single. A granddaughter, Wilhelmine Friderica Hoeber, who was born at the home in Filetown on 21 Nov 1815, a few months after the family moved from Nazareth to Filetown, daughter of Rebecca Benade and John Hoeber.

Christopher Benedict Benade kept a small book of 124 pages in which he recorded a variety of information in German script, beginning with a brief autobiography and family record. There are formulas for paints, lacquers, medicines and other concoctions. He carried on considerable business at Filetown, for accounts with many customers from 1819 to 1833 were kept in detail. The present owner of the book is Mr. Donald J. Fehr, of Bangor, a descendant of Benedict through his daughter Dorothea. The Jacobsburg Historical Society has a copy.

Matthew S. Henry, in his Manuscript History of Northampton County, listed as some of the first settlers in Filetown, Christian and Joseph Giersch, Samuel Snyder, and David Roth. "The latter," Henry wrote, "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."

Christian Friedrich Giersch (1778-1816), locksmith, married Elisabeth Hundsberger. Joseph Giersch, lock filer and tinsmith, married Judith Meinung. Samuel Schneider (Snyder), blacksmith and locksmith, married Elisabeth Protzman. David Roth married Catharine Althaus. A few others deserve mention. Peter Hay (1793-1823), lock filer, married Rebecca Benade. Johannes Beissel, lock filer and gun maker, married Elisabeth Kern. Abraham Schroeter (Schroeder), gun maker, married Margaretha Edmonds. John Augustus Edmonds, lock filer, married Elisabeth Hoenig (Heaney).

Among the later inhabitants of Filetown and vicinity were the following. Gideon S. Bassler (1813-1855), married Anna Maria Heller, also called Mary Ann. Emilius S. Bassler (1834-1910), married first Levina Cope, and second Sarah Anna (Heckman) Hoch. Christian Renatus Romig married Rebecca (Benade) Hay. Gabriel Romig (1804-1872), married Dorothea (Benade) Stauber. Benjamin Alleman, lock filer, married Sabeine Louise Colver.

Some other later residents or near neighbors of Filetown were Charles Rickert, tobacconist; Gideon Haupt, farmer; John Statler, gunsmith; Herman Oppelt, tobacconist; Michael Smickley, blacksmith; Charles Ochs, cigar maker, painter and gun stocker; Thomas Alleman, filer; Henry Fehr, filer; and Alexander Steiner, lock filer. The list is far from complete.

The village of Filetown, like that of Jacobsburg, is no more, but the stone house that Matthaues Alleman built still stands and is comfortably occupied.

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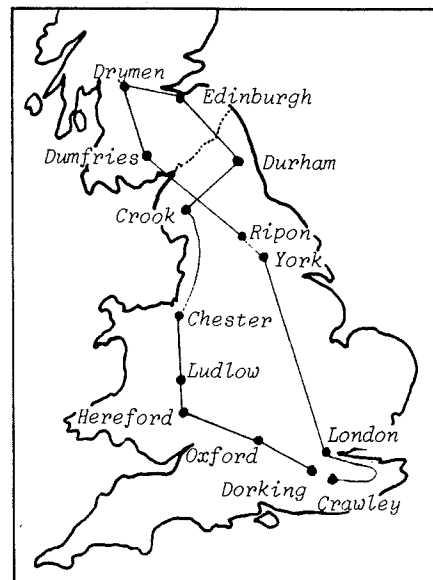
In our next issue watch for news of our Summer Craft Festival, June 15--4-H Center, Bushkill Center Road out of Nazareth.

"Living History"

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A special bus from *Bethlehem* takes us right to *Philadelphia Airport*. Evening flight arrives at *London's Gatwick Airport* the following morning.

Day 2 MONDAY

Browse in historic *Dorking's* antique shops, relax in the *White Horse Hotel*- Charles Dickens stayed at this coaching inn. You have use of your room during the day and overnight. Optional drive through Surrey's villages. Evening reception and welcome.

Day 3 TUESDAY

Visit the city of *Oxford's* dreaming spires, then on through delightful Cotswolds villages, stopping to stroll in *Broadway and Upper Slaughter*. Stay at the *Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford*, an elegant 18th century inn.

Day 4 WEDNESDAY

Drive north through the picturesque farming country of the Welsh borders. Visit the *Royal Worcester Porcelain Works*, then the *Ironbridge Gorge Industrial Museum*. Stay at the *Feathers Hotel*, a famous 17th century inn in the ancient town of *Ludlow*.

Day 5 THURSDAY

Continue north to *Chirk Castle*, built as a Welsh border fortress on a commanding hilltop; now furnished with famous tapestries. Then to the city of *Chester's* black-and-white timbered houses, and on to the *Lake District*. Stay at the peaceful *Wild Boar Hotel, Crook*, with 17th century beamed lounge and bar.

Day 6 FRIDAY

Tour spectacular *Lake District* scenery of vivid green mountainsides. We'll stop at breathtaking viewpoints, with optional fell-walking for the energetic. Then drive east across the *Yorkshire Dales*, climbing over high open moorland dotted with sheep. Stay two nights at the *Royal County Hotel, Durham*, whose 17th century lounge blends with modern bedrooms.

Day 7 SATURDAY

Morning in *Durham*, a city with a magnificent Norman cathedral and ancient university combined with the charm of a rural market town. Then drive into James Herriot's *Dales* country, a patchwork of green fields separated by dry stone walls. Visit *Raby Castle*, with a baronial hall 136 ft. long, and *Bowes Museum*, an incongruous chateau with a superb collection of furniture, paintings and porcelain. Dinner is a medieval banquet in the great hall of 13th century *Lumley Castle*.

Day 8 SUNDAY

Today we drive through rugged Scottish border country, stopping at turreted Traquair House, where twenty-seven monarchs have stayed since the 10th century. Then we'll visit a famous woollen mill making tweeds and tartans. Stay at the *North British Hotel*, an impressive Victorian Gothic building in the heart of *Edinburgh*. Evening entertainment of bagpipes, ballads and reels.

Please send me, without obligation, full details and conditions of the 16-day "Living History" bus tour of England and Scotland.

I received this brochure from _____ Society/Association

NAME _____ PHONE Day _____ Evening _____

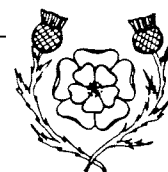
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Day 9 MONDAY

A morning in Edinburgh will include a visit to **Holyrood Palace**, where Mary Queen of Scots reigned. Then drive north to the 14th century **Castle of Doune**, where Bonnie Prince Charlie housed prisoners in 1746. Continue through spectacular mountains plunging steeply into deep blue lochs. Stay at the friendly and proudly Scottish **Buchanan Arms Hotel, Drymen**, near **Loch Lomond**.

Day 10 TUESDAY

A steamer trip on **Loch Lomond** shows the magnificent surrounding mountains and little islands mirrored in the lake. Then we travel southward through more of Scotland's majestic scenery. Stay overnight in **Dumfries**, home of the poet Robert Burns. Our hotel is the **Cairndale**, originally three Victorian houses.

Day 11 WEDNESDAY

Further south we leave Scotland and cross the **Yorkshire Dales** again, this time through **Wensleydale's** charming unspoilt villages. Visit **Fountains Abbey**, once an important Cistercian monastery, now a romantic ruin amid delightful gardens. Stay two nights at the peaceful **Ripon Spa Hotel**, amongst tasteful echoes of Edwardian grandeur.

Day 12 THURSDAY

Spend the day in the medieval walled city of **York**, where overhanging Tudor buildings almost meet above narrow cobbled streets. Walk the city ramparts, visit the soaring Gothic cathedral, and see the recreation of a previous Viking settlement right underneath the city streets. Good shopping too. Dinner in a Yorkshire pub.

Day 13 FRIDAY

Drive south to **London**, arriving early afternoon. Stay two nights at the **Clifton-Ford Hotel**, Welbeck Street, a smart modern hotel just a few minutes' walk from Oxford Street's shops. Dinner at a cockney music hall and cabaret.

Day 14 SATURDAY

Free in **London** for sightseeing and shopping, helped by a detailed guidebook and individual assistance. We'll go to the theatre in the evening.

Day 15 SUNDAY

Attend service in **St. Paul's Cathedral** if you wish, then drive southeast from London to the city of **Canterbury**, rich in medieval history. Watch a jousting tournament in the grounds of **Chilham Castle**, then at **Leeds Castle** see Henry VIII's banqueting hall, and housekeeping records for the year 1422. For our farewell the group has been graciously invited to a special reception and buffet dinner hosted by Viscount and Viscountess De L'Isle at their stately home, **Penshurst Place**, dating from 1340. Stay at the **George Hotel, Crawley**, a fine old coaching inn.

Day 16 MONDAY

Morning flight from **Gatwick** to **Philadelphia**, met by our bus to **Bethlehem**.

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- At many of the stops the group will split up, so you can set your own sightseeing pace.
 - Hotels have been carefully selected to provide old-world charm combined with good service and modern bathrooms.
 - Charter flight reservations by Gosztonyi Travel Bureau, Bethlehem. Bus transportation by Armchair Transport Company, members of the American Society of Travel Agents.
 - We reserve the right to make changes to itinerary or prices if necessitated by circumstances beyond our control.
-

PRICE, including round trip air fare, sharing double or twin-bedded room with private bath, breakfast, dinner, bus transportation throughout, all admissions and entertainments mentioned in itinerary, tourist guides and brochures mailed in advance and provided during tour **\$1780 per person**
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For each tour participant, the association through which they received the tour offer, will receive a contribution of \$100 in return for the value of the association's publicity.

"I lived in England until ten years ago, and I will be your tour guide to help you enjoy the country I know and love. The exchange rate with the British pound is exceptionally favorable now, so plan the vacation of a lifetime to Britain. I look forward to meeting you."

Bill Thompson

JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

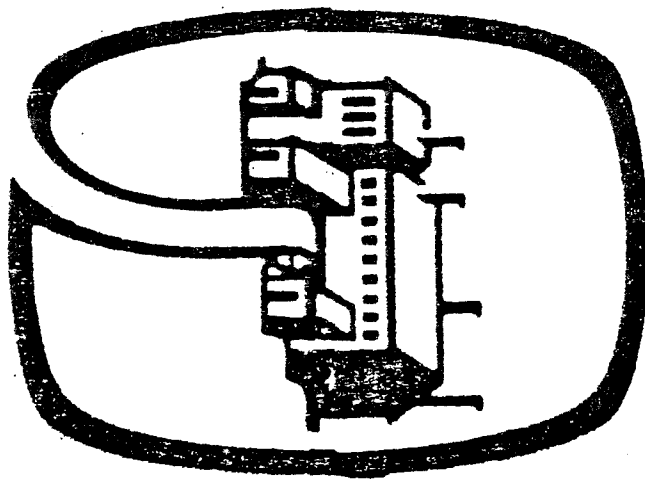
NAME CONTRIBUTIONS

Tannery Club	\$100	Boulton Club	\$500	Henry Rifle Club	\$1000
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NAME AND ADDRESS _____

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