

**The McMullens  
of  
Fannett and  
Tell Townships  
Pennsylvania**

**By  
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**Revised and Updated  
June 2016**



# **McMullen Genealogy**

## **Family History of the McMullens - Fannett and Tell Townships, Pennsylvania**

This McMullen website tells the story of the ancestors of Harvey McMullen. Our early immigrant McMullens were seven brothers whose father was Eneas McMullen of Tyrone County, Ulster, Ireland.

Over the years many of the descendants of Eneas and his seven brothers remained in Fannett and Tell Townships. Most had large families and tended to name their male children after uncles, which added difficulty to the research. However, our story is about the descendants of the eldest brother, Eneas.



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## **I - Introduction**

My search for the ancestors of Samuel S. McMullen (1804 – 1865) has taken the greater part of twenty years. When first searching for “dead McMullen relatives,” I never dreamed of the success finally achieved. With the help of other generous researchers, who so willingly shared their information, family members, today's DNA and modern technology, I've been able to trace the family conclusively to Ireland. *This document replaces a previous posting.*

Eleanor McMullen Blumenschein  
Green Valley, AZ  
June, 2016

## II - Our Ancestry

The prefixes Mc or Mac mean “son of.” The Scotch surname Macmillan, McMillan, McMullen, McMillen or MacMullen, is derived from *Mac Mhaolain* or *Mac Ghille-mhaoil* which means “Son of the Tonsured.” The term “tonsure” refers to a shaven crown or patch worn by monks or other clerics. The Celtic tonsure meant shaving the whole front of the pate from ear to ear, leaving everything behind to grow long. The name may be a reference to the physical appearance or occupation of the earliest Macmillans who were likely religious monks or priests.

The history of the Macmillans began long ago in prehistoric Scotland. Divided into great tribal districts or clans, members were descendants of prehistoric royal blood. Each clan was ruled by a Chief, had a clan tartan, crest, badge, slogan or war cry and a hereditary piper.<sup>1</sup> They fought the Romans before the birth of Christ. Military service was considered a duty and a privilege.

The surname is Celtic, and the Celtic church was established by St. Columba, who came from Ireland to introduce Christianity to Scotland. Scotland was part of the Catholic Church until the 1500s when the Reformation swept Europe and Protestantism took hold in England. The Scottish had very little regard for the Protestants. However, the people were unhappy with corrupt Catholic clergy, and the people attempted to reform the Church many times during the 16th century.

Despite the clergy, it was not until John Knox began preaching his Calvinist sermons that people began to take notice. Knox first converted the nobility. Then in 1560 the Scottish Parliament abolished papal jurisdiction over Scottish churches and officially adopted a Calvinist creed drawn up by John Knox. Every adult was required to attend a Calvinist Sermon on Sunday, and was essentially required to accept the new religion.

In 1603 King James VI of Scotland inherited the English and Irish thrones. In Ireland, in 1607 two Ulster chieftains fled to France rather than live under English rule. Confiscating their land, James encouraged Scottish Presbyterians to settle on the land, approximately 3.8 million acres. At that time parts of Scotland were becoming overpopulated.

The Lowland Scott, unlike the Highlander, is a mixture of Celts, Romans, Frisians, Angles, Saxons, Danes, Norwegians, Normans and Flemings. The Lowland Scots moved to Ulster, Ireland, and found English Anglicans, Irish Catholics, and, of course, Scottish Presbyterians. The Irish were hostile to the newcomers, both for religious and economic reasons. The Irish were displaced from their land holdings by Scottish cheap laborers.

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<sup>1</sup>Louise Ellis, *A Brief History of Clan MacMillan* (pamphlet, no date)

The Scottish immigrants to Ulster were farmers and fighters. They found themselves involved in wars with various Kings and religious factions. In fact, McMullens participated in the Battle of Boyne on July 1, 1690, on the side of William III.<sup>2</sup>

The term Scots-Irish was given to Irish migrants whose ancestors had lived in Scotland. The Irish part of the name does not signify intermarriage with the Irish. In fact, they were Scots through and through.<sup>3</sup>

The Scots had come to Ulster for a better life, but that was not to be found. Rents were high, land was scarce and the economy poor. Traditionally, the Scottish gave their allegiance to their clan leader rather than a king or government. Ulster was a British colony, like the American colonies. Thus, America was seen to be a land of opportunity. Migration became a very attractive option to Ulster Scots.

Pennsylvania was a popular port for Scots-Irish migrants. There was plenty of available land and a labor shortage. Most migrants became farmers, as they had been in Scotland and Ulster. They picked up many skills from German, English, Welsh, and Swedish neighbors, including building log cabins.<sup>4</sup>

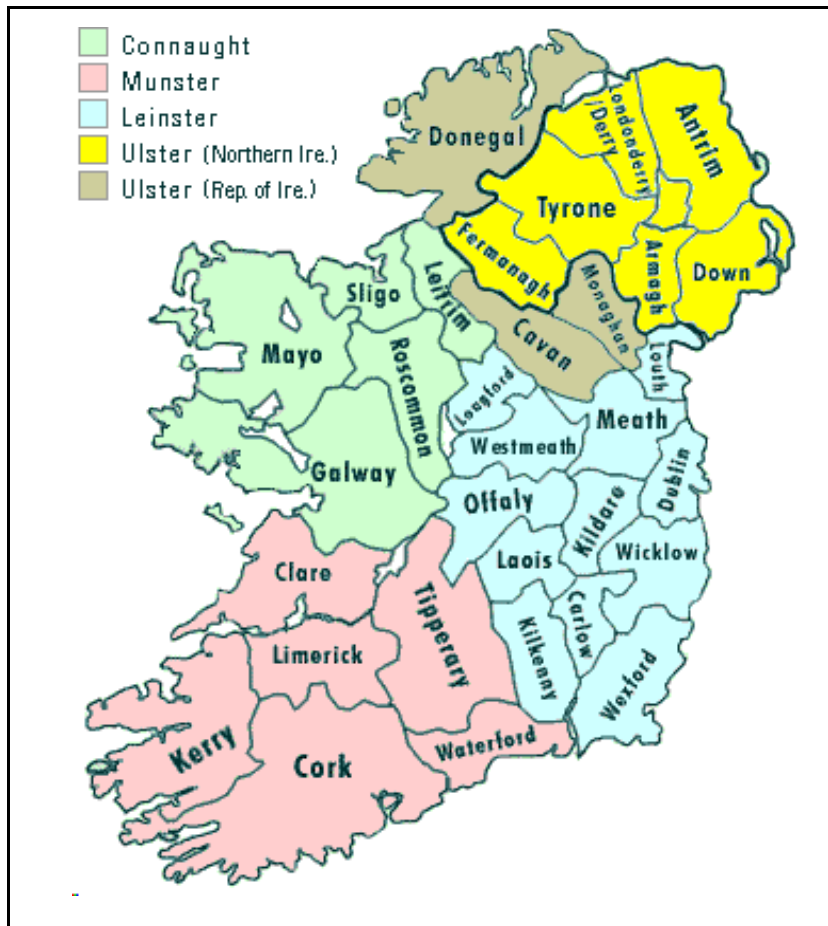
They were hard-working people, and raised many children. The women worked in the fields, replacing the men when they were fighting. They read no books, had little or no schooling; the children grew up with the values of the parents and their Scots-Irish heritage and traditions.

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<sup>2</sup>Joseph Cannon e-mail message to author, February 1, 2005

<sup>3</sup>Lucille Wallower, *Pennsylvania: The Keystone State* (Penns Valley Publishers, 1984), p 130

<sup>4</sup>Matthew A. C. Newsome, *The Migration of the Scots-Irish to Southwestern NC*, 2001 (from internet)



Although our McMullens almost certainly originated in Scotland, this story begins at the hill of Cornamuck, Parish of Dromore, Town of Omaugh, County of Tyrone, Ulster, Ireland.

There, in 1763 Eneas McMullen and his wife said good bye to their eight sons—Eneas, Lawrence, Daniel, James, John, David, Thomas and Samuel. The brothers left Ireland, probably from Londonderry, and landed at Philadelphia, looking forward to a new frontier and a better life. Possibly other families came with them.

They were driven out of Ireland, which had become a client state controlled by the King of Great Britain. The majority of the people of Ireland were Catholic peasants, who were excluded from power and land ownership under the Penal Laws. Penal laws stipulated that Catholic-owned land could not be passed on intact to a single heir. This made many Catholic landholdings unproductive and caused them to fall out of Catholic hands over

several generations. Anglo-Irish landowners grew grain for export, while their impoverished tenants ate potatoes and groats (hulled kernels of various cereal grains).<sup>5</sup>

They were hard-working people and raised many children. The women worked in the fields, replacing the men when they were fighting. They read no books and had little or no schooling; the children grew up with the values of the parents and their Scots-Irish heritage and traditions.

The McMullen (McMullen, McMullin, McMullan) brothers left the ship and probably followed the road now known as Route 30. They went first to York County, Pennsylvania, at Conewago (just east of the Chambersburg, Path Valley area). They then purchased land in Cumberland County. This was at the time the county was divided, creating Franklin County.<sup>6</sup>

“Because settlement was only in its initial stages, few people had moved beyond the present-day boundaries, and Cumberland County was considered to be a frontier region at this time.”<sup>7</sup>

The McMullen brothers were actively involved in the buying and selling of land. There are a number of deeds on record showing their various transactions. They bought and sold property among themselves, as well as transactions with unrelated individuals.

Our direct ancestor, James McMullen, eventually had a farm in Franklin County. However, in June 1795 James purchased property in Barree Township, Huntingdon County for 37 pounds 10 shillings ? pence. The deed was not recorded until sometime later, and James sold the property to Charles Harrison on February 12, 1801, for 40 pounds.

At that time some land was available for about \$1 per acre. Then, one pound would be worth about \$5. Horses were expensive, something like the value of a used car, but they were the family transportation.

The brothers initially settled in Concord, Pennsylvania, which is a small group of houses at an intersection in northern Franklin County. Here the brothers established homes. Eneas

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<sup>5</sup>*History of Ireland (1691-1801), Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*

<sup>6</sup>Email posted by Faber McMullen, Jr., to Shawn Scott, January 19, 2003.

<sup>7</sup>*Socioeconomic Conditions of the Pennsylvania Frontier: The German and Scots-Irish of Cumberland County, 1765-1775*, [http://msaag.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/1\\_Ross\\_Marr.pdf](http://msaag.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/1_Ross_Marr.pdf)

McMullen built a stone house (now brick) which is still standing today. A recent attempt to find the property was thwarted by the fact that the current owners (Amish) have removed the sign identifying the “McMullen House.”

“*Concord*, situated in the upper end of Fannett Township, was laid out by James Widney, and lots offered for sale about 1791. It took its name from Concord, Massachusetts, the scene of the first engagement in the Revolutionary war. The first settlers in the region were the Widneys, the Erwins, the Kyles, McMullins, Linns, McIlhenies, Doyles, Hockenberrys and others.”<sup>8</sup>

Today the Shade Valley/Path Valley area is probably little changed from earlier years. There are very few businesses in the area—no McDonald’s or Walgreen’s on every corner. And very limited cell service. Most of the roads are paved, although a few are still dirt. The homes are obviously older buildings, and farming is the main industry. There does not appear to be much opportunity for the younger members of the community.

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<sup>8</sup>*History of Franklin County (Warner, Beers & Co. 1887).*

## Ancestry Charts - Clan MacMullen

### Sons of Eneas McMullen (1720 - ) and wife All sons born in Ireland

Eneas (1745-1833) Catherine Glass	Lawrence (1747-1812) <i>(never married, left property to children of Eneas)</i>	Daniel (1749)	James (1751-1826) Ann McMullen <i>(James died in Tell Township)</i>	John (1753)	David (1755)	Thomas (1757)	Samuel* (1759) Susannah Logan
John (1800) Lawrence (1803-1857) James (1765 - 1839) Enos (1815-1880) Mary Ann (Horn) Catherine (Taylor) Margaret (Houghenberry) Elizabeth Sara Nancy (McDonnale) <i>(All born Path Valley &amp; Cumberland Cty, later Franklin Cty, Fannett Twp.)</i>			Biddy Mary Hugh Isabella Ann <i>(married Wm. McMullen, moved to Cambria)</i> James Matthew Martha Charles				Margaret (1795) Jane James (1799) Mary Hugh (1804) Alexander (1801) Henry Robert

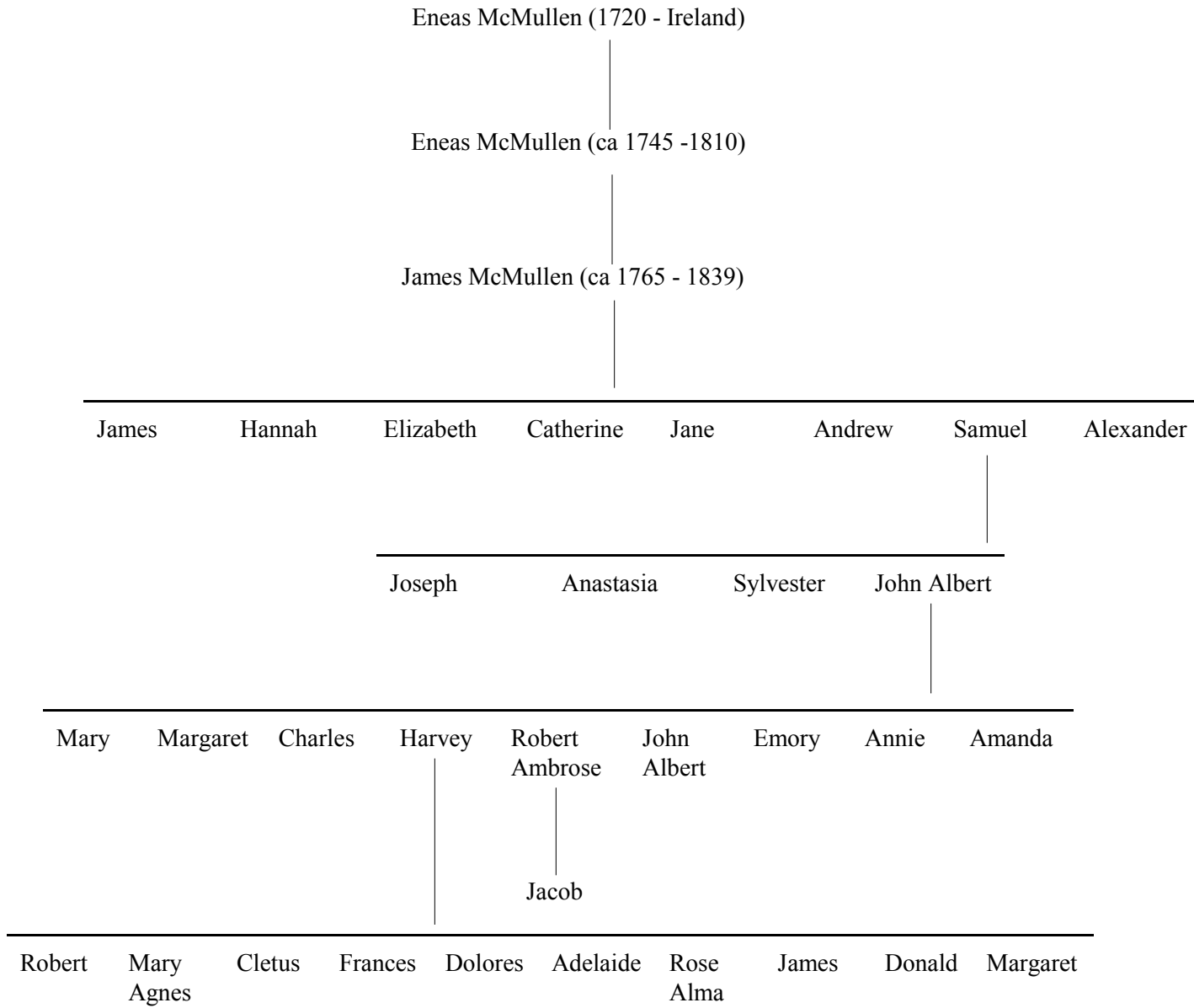
\*Moved to Cambria before 1835-36

*Chart created by Eleanor Blumenschein; data provided by Faber McMullen, Perry Baker and other McMullen researchers.*

With the help of generous relatives and fellow researchers and the DNA taken from James McMullen, son of Harvey McMullen, we have been able to determine that the family of Harvey and Gertrude Rievel McMullen is descended from Eneas McMullen, the eldest of the seven immigrant brothers and James, the second son of Eneas.



# Descendants of Eneas McMullen

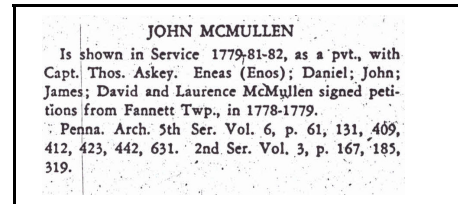


*Chart created by Eleanor Blumenschein; data provided by Faber McMullen, Perry Baker and other McMullen researchers.*

## U. S. Revolutionary War

All of the brothers, with the exception of Samuel, the youngest, served in the Revolutionary War Pennsylvania Militia. The Pennsylvania Militia was organized under an act of March 7, 1777, which provided for compulsory enrollment by the constables of all able-bodied male whites between the ages of thirteen and fifty-three, [www.phmc.pa.gov](http://www.phmc.pa.gov).

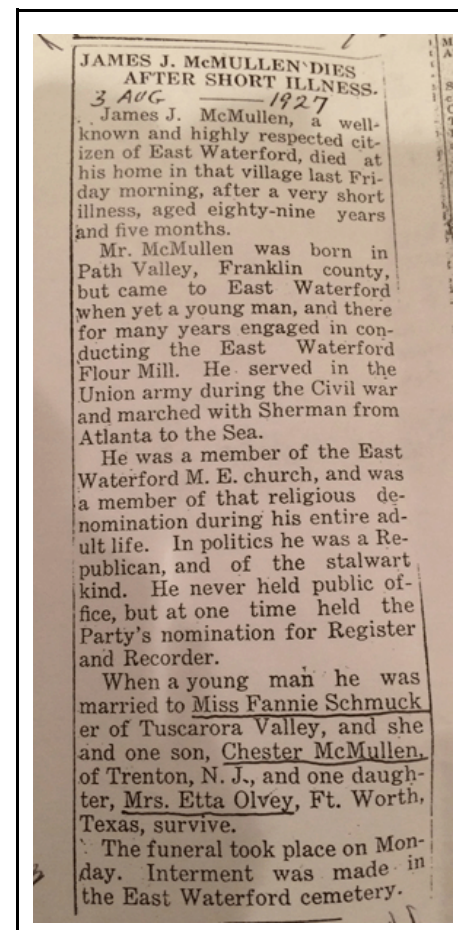
The *American Revolutionary War Soldiers of Franklin County*, p164, lists six of the brothers, showing they all served under Captain Thomas Askey. The militia was charged with the local *defence*, and some soldiers never saw battle.



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## Civil War

Recently a fellow researcher sent me an obituary for a younger James J. McMullen, who was the son of Alexander and grandson of James (son of Eneas). This James, who lived a bit north of Concord, served in the Union army in the Civil War and marched with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea.



### III - James McMullen

James McMullen (ca 1765 - 1839), descendant of eldest McMullen immigrant Eneas, was born after what is considered the Colonial Period, but lived in an area still primitive with barely passable roads or access to trade. He was likely faced with the task of clearing land and erecting a home. “Cabins and farmhouses were built of logs; bricks were not yet being manufactured locally; and the time, labor and skill necessary to construct a house from stone was better applied to more practical matters. Window glass was a luxury; greased paper served the same purpose, in the average log cabin.”<sup>9</sup>

The Scots-Irish were farmers and generally used mostly wood tools, sometimes with metal blades. The family ate what they grew and raised and created most of what they needed. They had “great stocks of hogs, horses, sheep, chickens, geese and turkeys and [were] getting into dairies as fast as they can.”<sup>10</sup>

James established his home and farm a bit southwest of Concord at the east side and base of the Tuscarora Mountains. The property consisted of two parcels of land totaling 181 acres. One tract of land currently is used as a hunt club, owned by a group of Chambersburg men, and known as the “McMullen Farm.” One of the owners related that at one time part of the building (made of logs with wide plank floors), was used as a funeral home.<sup>11</sup> The house has been bricked, and the barn could possibly be 200 years old.



Signs at entrance to “McMullen Farm”

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<sup>9</sup>Steve Kemp, *Our Heritage, The Valley Log*, Orbisonia, PA, June 21, 2006

<sup>10</sup>Clarence E. Beck, *quoting Narratives of Early Pennsylvania by A. C. Myers, Souvenir Historical Book issues in Connection with the Sesqui-Centennial Celebration of Huntingdon County Pennsylvania by the Huntingdon Historical Society, 1787-1937.*

<sup>11</sup>Rodney Talbert, telephone conversation with author, August 2006.



Barn on James  
McMullen Farm



House on James  
McMullen farm

James McMullen and his wife (name unknown) had eight children (listed in the order they appear the Orphan's Court Petition of James McMullen).

- James who probably never married;
- Hannah who married William McKinstry;
- Elizabeth who married Samuel Cunningham;
- Catherine who married James Gunnfrew,
- Jane;
- Andrew who married Malinda;
- Samuel who married Sarah Hegie; and
- Alexander who married Elizabeth Jones.

The 1830 U.S. Census for James McMullen and family in 1830 lists:

- three males (20-30),
- one male (30-40),
- one male (60-70) [James],
- one female (to age 5),
- one female (5-10)
- one female (30-40) on the property.

Also listed under "Free Colored Persons," were:

- one male (55-100),
- three females (to age 10),
- one female (24-36).<sup>12</sup>

The wife of James and mother of the eight children probably died sometime earlier, and perhaps the colored family were hired help.

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<sup>12</sup>James McMullin household, 1830 U.S. census, Fannett Township, Franklin County, PA, p 221, line 7

Much trade was done by barter, there being very little money in circulation. Whiskey was a valuable commodity, and many Scots-Irish farmers had an outbuilding housing a still. The women tended the garden, prepared the meals, did the laundry, milked the cows, churned the butter, carded and wove the flax and wool, wove the cloth, sewed the clothes and cared for children. They learned to mold bullets and handle a rifle, so that in the absence of a husband a wife could defend her home and family from savages.

These people were truly pioneers, the men wearing homespun shirts and breeches or deer skin clothing. The women wore short wool gowns in the winter and similar dresses of linsey-woolsey (linen and wool) in the summer. They always wore a hat or hood in the winter and a sunbonnet in the summer.

Prior to the revolution there are records of McMullens requesting rifles and ammunition for a militia against the Indians. The story is told of how the Indians raided the valley and took away people. At one time children were playing in a field when the Indians entered the area. The children hid inside a large black soap-making kettle while the family fired at the Indians from the log cabin.<sup>13</sup>

Near the current McMullen property in Tell Township, up the hill to the far east of the property in the woods near the State game lands, is located the "McMullen Cemetery."<sup>14</sup> There Indians are buried in the same area.

Social activities of the time centered around the church, house-raisings, log-rollings, apple-cuttings and quilting parties. They danced the Irish reels and jigs. They gathered at neighbors' homes for evenings of conversation, laughter, jokes and perhaps games. There would be doughnuts, gingerbread, hickory nuts, sweet cider, and the men might enjoy a glass of whiskey.

Schools came later, although there were some early colleges established by the Scots-Irish. The original settlers came to America unable to read or write, but ambitious, practical and wise in the art of farming and self-defense. They were too busy managing their farm and earning a livelihood to have much an appreciation for the fine arts.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>13</sup>Interview with Jacob McMullen of Shade Valley (now deceased), by Joseph Cannon.

<sup>14</sup>Ibid.

<sup>15</sup>Wayland F. Dunaway, *The Scotch-Irish of Colonial Pennsylvania*, 1944



Tell Township  
one-room school  
still used in 1950's

“Smith [Jesse P. Smith] related that he ‘enjoyed no more advantages in way of education than were afforded by the log school houses of that early day [about 1820]. He attended the Stever school, in [what is now] Cass township, which, like many others, had lights of paper and rough slab benches. This school he attended only a month or two each year.’ The phrase ‘lights of paper refers to greased paper which was used to cover over the window openings, taking the place of glass...”

“George Keith ‘attended one of those log school houses with paper windows, which, in spite of their homeliness, have sent forth such powerful influences for good. Often, the boy went to school with only a handkerchief tied about his head, instead of a hat. Here, of course, whether in public school or subscription school, the education was as plain as the lives and home surroundings of the sturdy urchins that filled the slab benches; but the characters there developed were generally as sturdy as their physical organizations.’”

“Brief educations were the most that the average boy or girl could expect in the first half of the 19th century.”<sup>16</sup>

James McMullen (born ca 1765) died without a will in December 1839. At the time of his death, there was a debt against the estate of \$1,051.28½, a considerable sum at the time. The property near the Tuscarora Mountains, was to be advertised for sale in two Chambersburg newspapers and by posting at least ten handbills in public places in the vicinity of the real estate.<sup>17</sup>

On November 17, 1841, Samuel McMullen (1804-1865), one of the sons of the deceased James, purchased the property for \$575 according to Orphan Court Records.<sup>18</sup> Census records show that James (son of the deceased James and brother of Samuel) and family remained on the farm.<sup>19</sup> Since the son, James, was the administrator of his father’s estate, it seems likely that Samuel purchased the property on his behalf and subsequently deeded it to him. However, there is no recorded deed to show such a transaction.

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<sup>16</sup>Steven Kemp, *Our Heritage, The Valley Log*, Orbisonia, PA, June 30, 2004

<sup>17</sup>James McMullen Petition, Orphan’s Court, Franklin County, PA, probate file no. 22, April 1842.

<sup>18</sup>Orphans Court Docket January 1824-December 1844, Record of Return of Sale, Orphan’s Court, Franklin County, PA, FHC film 0323838.

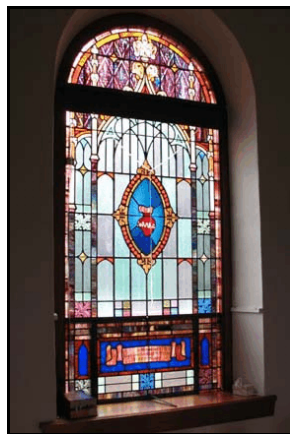
<sup>19</sup>U.S. census, Fannett Township, Franklin County, PA, 1850, 1860, 1870.

Sons of the elder James (Alexander, Andrew and James) remained in Fannett Township, Franklin County, PA. After his marriage to Sarah Hegie in 1838, Samuel moved to Tell Township, Huntingdon County, PA., which is on the west of the Tuscorara Mountains.<sup>20</sup>

In later years John McMullin (1846 - 1918), son of Andrew and nephew of Samuel, and his wife, Catherine Watters McMullin (1849 - 1943), continued to live on the Concord farm established by James, son of Eneas. After the death of the father John, unmarried children Stephen, Elizabeth and Annie lived there with their mother, Catherine. Sometime after the her death at the age of 93, the children sold the farm to the current owners. Both John and Catherine McMullin are buried at Our Lady of Refuge Church.

In memory of John and Catherine McMullin, their children donated a stained-glass window in Our Lady of Refuge Church.<sup>21</sup> (The name has been spelled both McMullen and McMullin, depending on the whim of the owner.)

We originally visited Our Lady of Refuge Church in 2007. The stone/brick church completely burned in 2009, leaving only the exterior walls standing. In 2016 we again revisited and found the church restored, including an exact duplicate of the McMullin window. Funds for the replacement were donated by parishoners.



“McMullin window  
in Our Lady of  
Refuge Church

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<sup>20</sup>U.S. Census, Fannett Township, Franklin County, PA, various years.

<sup>21</sup>Conversation with Fr. John Campion, August 16, 2007

## IV - Samuel and Sarah McMullen

Our ancestor, Samuel (1804 - 1865), son of James (ca 1765 - 1839), remained on the family farm in Concord, Franklin County, until his marriage to Sarah Hegie in 1838. He then moved directly west over the Tuscarora Mountains to Tell Township, probably following the Indian path through the pass in the Tuscarora Mountains known as “The Narrows.” The path went from Concord to Richvale to Shade Gap and on to Orbisonia.<sup>22</sup>

As was the tradition, Samuel McMullen and Sarah Hegie, according to the Hegie family Bible, were married at the Hegie home. The wedding ceremony on October 9, 1838, was performed by Reverend Bradley, pastor of St. Mary’s Church in Shade Gap.<sup>23</sup>

Samuel had at least a rudimentary education, although Sarah did not. Viewing signatures on deeds, Samuel signed his own name, but Sarah signed with an “X,” as did all the Hegie daughters.

Although we do not know where Samuel and Sarah lived until the purchase of property in 1851, he is listed on the Tell Township tax records for various years as follows:<sup>24</sup>

<i>Year</i>					<i>Tax</i>
1840		one cow			.16
1841	one horse	one cow			.16
1843	two horses	two cows			.28
1847	one horse	one cow		Money at interest \$200	\$1.17
1848	one horse	one cow	160 acres	Money at interest \$140	\$1.87
1852	one horse	one cow	260 acres		\$3.94

There is no deed or location recorded for Samuel’s 1848 ownership of 160 acres in 1848. On April 1, 1851, he purchased “one hundred fifty some acres and thirty-six perches” for the sum of \$216.21 from Thomas W. Neely and wife. This property bordered the lands of Abraham Bollinger.<sup>25</sup> Then on April 14, 1851, Samuel S. McMullen and Jacob Kling jointly purchased 184 acres for \$360 from Abraham Bolinger.<sup>26</sup> This is the first record that indicated the middle initial of Samuel was “S.”

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<sup>22</sup>Paul A. W. Wallace, *Indian Paths of Pennsylvania*, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Collection, 1998

<sup>23</sup>Father Bradley, pastor of St. Mary’s Catholic Church, *Lost History of Shade Gap Area*

<sup>24</sup>Microfilm, Tell Township Tax Records, various years, Huntingdon County Historical Society

<sup>25</sup>Deeds, Huntingdon County Courthouse, Huntingdon, PA, Book Z2, p 128

<sup>26</sup>Deeds, Huntingdon County Courthouse, Huntingdon, PA, Book Z2, p 130



However, we know Samuel and Sarah lived in the Nossville area. Apparently Samuel McMullen and Jacob Kling lived in adjoining homes or properties since they were listed next to each other on the 1850 census, and they bought property jointly in 1852.<sup>27</sup> Jacob Kling was 19 years younger than Samuel.<sup>28</sup>



Nossville 2006

“Nossville is a small town located halfway between the northwest and northeast end of Tell Township on the banks of the Tuscarora Creek.

“The first business in Nossville may have been in 1836 when Thomas Cisney built a sawmill and gristmill near the stream.

“The town of Nossville was named after Colonel George Noss, who built a steam tannery in 1848 and operated it until 1870. It burned down and was rebuilt on the same

spot by Reese and Sons. (*McMullens heirs sold the Samuel McMullen property to the Rees family in 1870 for \$3,600 after Samuel’s death.*) The tannery closed in 1878. In 1881, Oswill Mosser took over. In 1883, William B. Kling built Kling’s store. It is still standing but is no longer a store [2002].”<sup>29</sup>

In 2006 the store structure was no longer standing, but was previously located at the upper left of the photo above.

The settlers in Tell Township generally moved west from New York and Philadelphia. Many soldiers had earned land bounties for service in the Revolutionary War. The land was fertile but challenging.

“Sometimes there were mountain lands—on the Pocono plateau, for example—where the ground was saturated with subsurface water, and so heavily overgrown with laurel, hemlock, and white pine that it was the blackness above rather than the moisture below that troubled the traveler. Such places were often called the ‘Shades of Death.’ That name is found on a tract twenty miles long on the Pechoquealin Path to Wyoming in Monroe County and another on the Frankstown Path at Shade Gap. Edmund’s Swamp was on the headwaters of what is still called Shade Creek.”<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>27</sup>Deeds, Huntingdon County Courthouse, Huntingdon, PA, Book Z2, p 130.

<sup>28</sup>Jacob Kling, Familysearch.org, IGI Individual Record

<sup>29</sup>Anthony Sheldon, *Lost History of Shade Gap Area*, 2002.

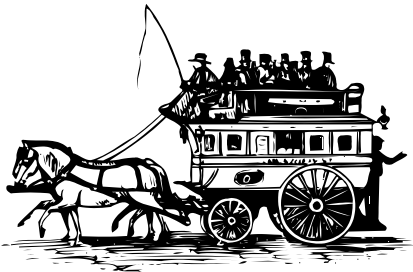
<sup>30</sup>Paul A. W. Wallace, *Indian Paths of Pennsylvania*, 1998

Farms were generally small—large parcels could not be cultivated by one man. James McMullen owned 181 acres.<sup>31</sup> Samuel McMullen farmed 150 acres in 1862 and possibly jointly with Jacob Kling, 260 acres.<sup>32</sup>

“Though not a major route, Shade Gap became known as ‘The Shades of Death,’ because travelers claimed the gap was so dark you could not see your hand in front of your face at noon, making it a popular place for ambushes.”<sup>33</sup>

“An 1858 editorial appearing in the original *Herald* registered concern over the deplorable road conditions from Shirleysburg to both Mount Union and Shade Gap. By the spring of 1862 local residents had organized and formed the ‘Mount Union, Shirleysburg and Orbisonia Road Company.’ Their petition to the state legislature for construction of a new road was passed by both branches and 500 shares at \$50 each were offered to help finance the project.

“Very dependent on the conditions of the area roads were the two local stage lines. The line operated by BX Blair ran from Shade Gap to Mount Union on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, arriving in Mount Union at 9:00 a.m. and departing the same at 5:00 p.m. with a seven minute stopover at Mrs. Fraker’s, a local boarding house in Shirleysburg. The other stage line, owned by John Jamison, also ran from Shade Gap to Mount Union, leaving Mount Union at 9:00 a.m. and arriving in Shade Gap at 2:00 p.m., with another coach leaving Shade Gap at 10:00 a.m. and arriving in Mount Union at 4:00 p.m. Blair’s coaches also made a run from Mount Union to Chambersburg with stops at Shirleysburg, Orbisonia, Shade Gap, Burnt Cabins, Fannettsburg, Horse Valley, Strasburg and Kieffer’s Store. Fare for this trip was three dollars.”<sup>34</sup>



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<sup>31</sup>James McMullen Petition, Orphan’s Court, Franklin County, PA, probate file no. 22, April 1842.

<sup>32</sup>Deeds, Huntingdon County Courthouse, Huntingdon, PA, Book Z2, p 128 and 130.

<sup>33</sup>Dale Taylor, *Everyday Life in Colonial America From 1607-1783*, 1997.

<sup>34</sup>*Ibid.*

Samuel and Sarah remained on the Nossville property until the death of Samuel. Here was where they raised their family and lived their lives.

After the death of Samuel in 1865, Sarah most likely went to live with her brother, John Hegie, in Shade Valley. The original Samuel and Sarah McMullen property in Nossville was sold to Hans Rees, Norman J. Rees and Arthur F. Rees on April 15, 1870 for the sum of \$3,600.<sup>35</sup>

Because John Hegie died without a will, his property (currently the McMullen homestead in Shade Valley) was sold at Sheriff's sale to Joseph and Sylvester [James] McMullen (sons of Samuel and Sarah McMullen) on April 19, 1870 for the sum of \$3,240.<sup>36</sup> Today the property is still owned by members of the McMullen family.

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<sup>35</sup>Deeds, Huntingdon County Courthouse, Huntingdon, PA, Book Z2, p 134.

<sup>36</sup>Deeds, Huntingdon County Courthouse, Huntingdon, PA, Book Y2, p 551.

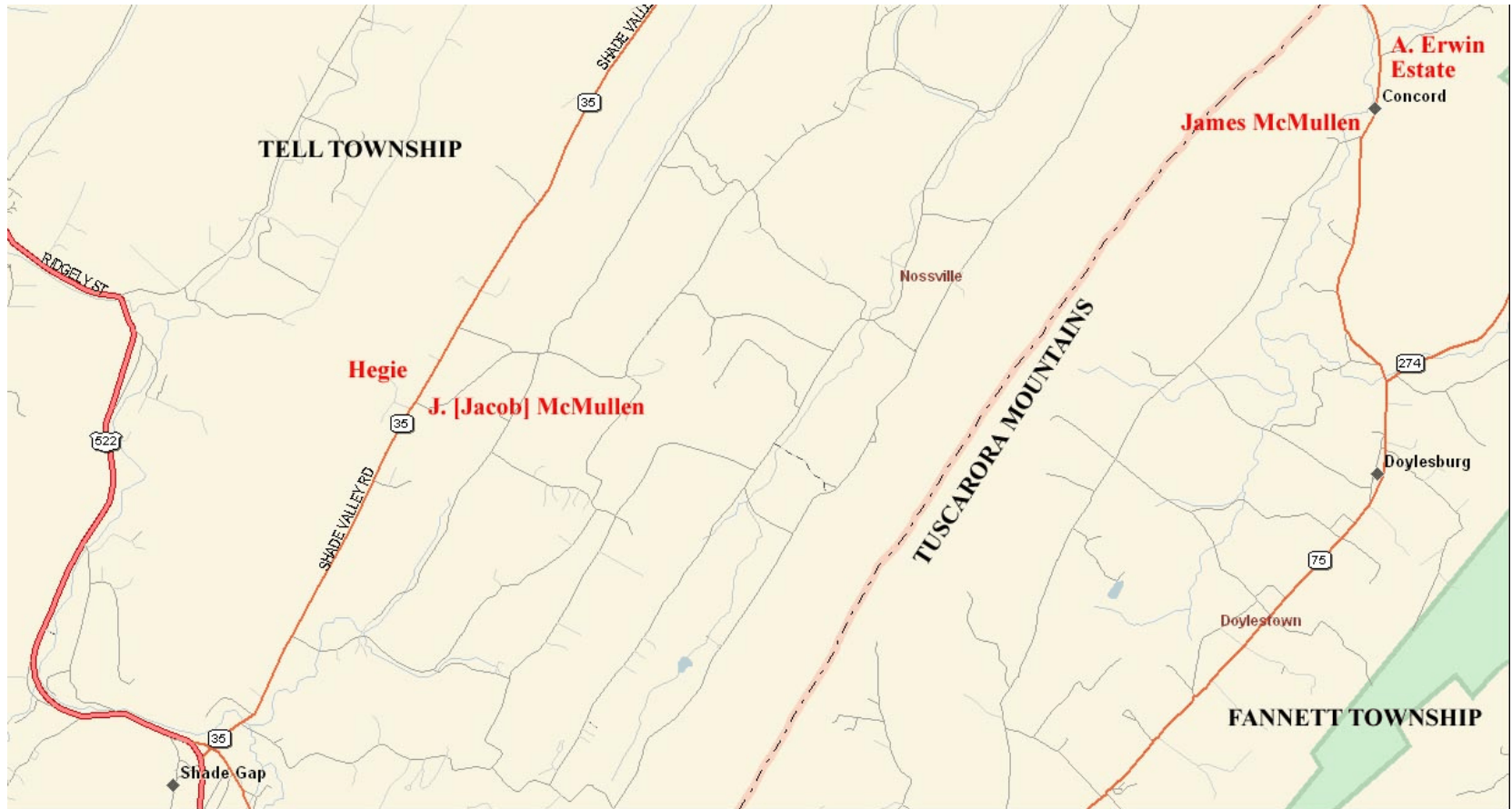
Deed  
 David McGarvey,  
 Trustee to Sell the  
 Real Estate of John  
 Hoagie dec'd  
 To  
 Joseph McMullen  
 & Sylvester McMullen

By Records  
 Volume 8  
 Page 127  
 Dec 19  
 1870

This Indenture Made the nineteenth  
 day of April in the year of our  
 Lord One thousand eight hun-  
 dred, and Seventy Between David  
 McGarvey of the Township of Shick-  
 County of Huntington and State  
 of Pennsylvania, Trustee to Sell  
 the real estate of John Hoagie  
 Late of Tell Township in Said  
 County deceased of the one  
 part; and Joseph McMullen  
 and Sylvester McMullen of

the Township of Tell in Said County of the other  
 part; whereas the said John Hoagie, was in his  
 lifetime lawfully seized in his demesne as of  
 fee, of and in a certain plantation and tract  
 of land, Situated in Tell Township aforesaid  
 (bounded and described as hereinafter men-  
 tioned) and being so thereof seized as aforesaid died  
 intestate; and whereas at an Orphans Court held  
 at Huntington in and for the County of Hunting-  
 don aforesaid, on the tenth day of August A.D. 1869,  
 upon the petition of Jacob Hoagie, brother of said decea-  
 sed praying the Court to award an inquest to make  
 partition &c. whereupon a writ of partition or valua-  
 tion issued out of said Court bearing test the  
 day of A.D. 18 to the Sheriff of Said Co-  
 unty directed, commanding him to summon  
 an inquest to make partition of the said real  
 estate, according to law; and that the partiti-  
 on or valuation so made be shown distinctly  
 and openly before the said Court at Houn-  
 tington on the day of A.D. 18 which  
 said writ was duly executed and returned ac-  
 cording to law and the return and valuation on  
 motion confirmed by the Court aforesaid. And  
 whereas all the heirs and legal representatives  
 of the said John Hoagie, having respectively refused  
 to take the said tract of land at the valuation of  
 aforesaid, the Court did grant a rule upon the said  
 heirs and representatives to show cause why  
 the said real estate should not be sold accord-  
 ing to law, legal notice of the aforesaid rule being

Portion of the deed conveying the Hegie property to the McMullens



Property locations about 1870,  
using Pomeroy and Beers maps.



## V - The Hegie Family

Sarah (Sally) Hegie McMullen (1769 - 1837), wife of Samuel McMullen, was the daughter of Jacob Hegie and Margaret Micholls. Her grandfather, Hans Jacob Hagey, born in Neustadt, Germany, in 1749, served in the American Revolution in the Philadelphia County Militia commanded by John Cope.

### Log home of 1800's will have new life

By CHERYL BELEW

If you travel down Route 35, you may soon notice the absence of a familiar landmark which has stood for 150 years or more about three miles outside Shade Gap. Jerry and Ann Crouse have decided to donate the log home which stands on their property to the 5th Battalion of the Cumberland County Militia. The militia travels to various parts of the country re-enacting Revolutionary War battles in authentic uniforms.

The group plans to disassemble the

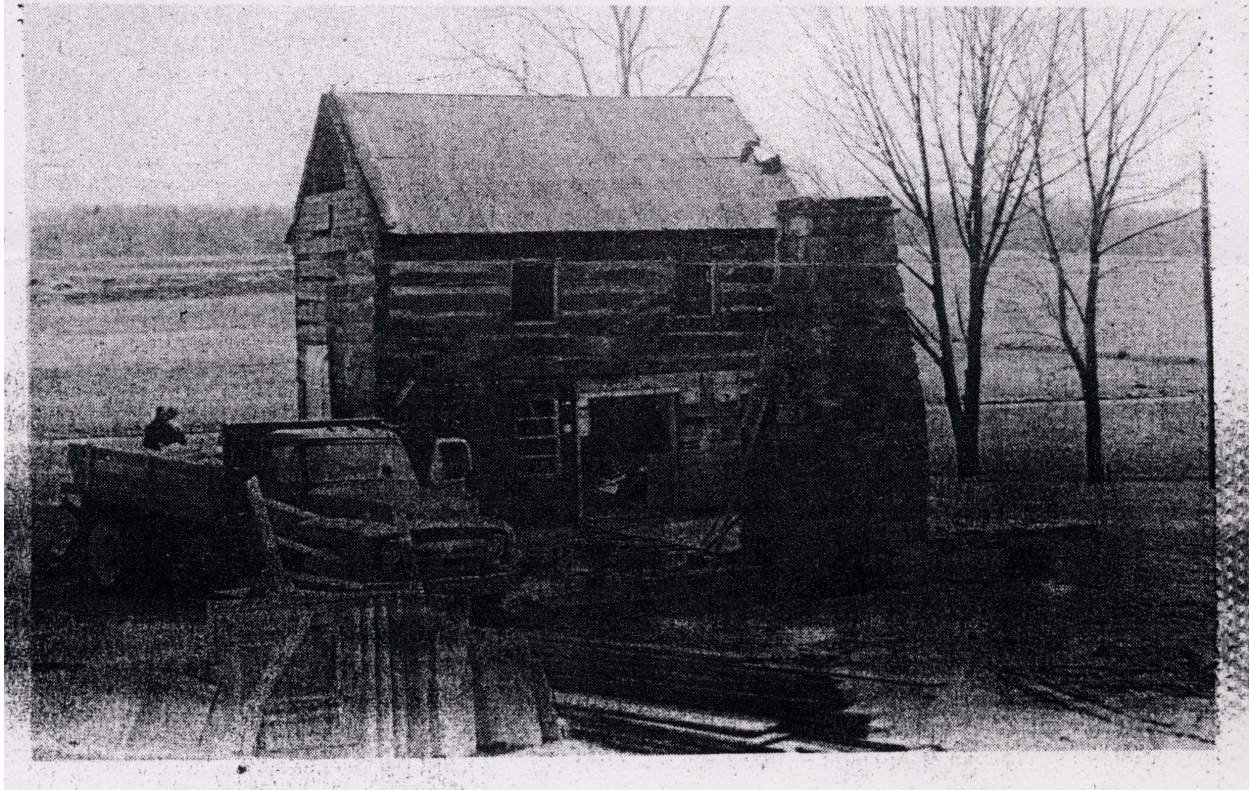
log home, carefully cataloging each piece, and then reconstruct it elsewhere, possibly to use as their headquarters.

Although most folks may remember the home as being sided with gray asbestos shingles, underneath that relatively modern shell stood the original log structure. No one seems to know for sure when the house was built, but the old Crouse home which will soon vanish, as well as the ground upon which it sits, possess an interesting and romantic

history.

Following the Revolutionary War, a young soldier by the name of Jacob Hagie (some accounts spell his name Hegie) was traveling through the area in search of his brother. Why he was searching and how they became separated are mysteries although, according to post-Revolutionary War letters which the Crouses have kept, it was not uncommon for a family member to leave home seeking work as far away as Philadelphia, and then

(Continued on 13)





# Log home

(Continued from 1)

not to be heard from again for several years, if at all.

While crossing Tuscarora Mountain, Jacob was caught in a winter storm and was taken in by the Andrew Michaels family, who lived somewhere in the vicinity of the homesite. Jacob Hagie spent the entire winter with the Michaels, and by the time spring had arrived, Jacob had fallen in love with Margaret, one of the Michaels's daughters. They were married and eventually had 16 children.

In 1819 Jacob bought 196 acres of land for \$138.49 from neighbor Hugh Glen, whose land adjoined the Michaels's. This land had been granted to Glen and his wife Mary in 1767. (In that year all but one other plot of ground in that immediate area was unowned and waiting to be claimed from the government.) It is believed by Crouse family members that Jacob built the first section of the log home on land purchased from Hugh Glen. The exact year the house was begun is unclear, but even the newest sections are held together with wooden pegs.

Eventually one of Jacob and Margaret's children, a son named Joseph, came into possession of the land and probably the house.

In those days there was a wealthy man in Dry Run, by the name of William Doyle, who operated an orphanage of sorts. He took in the homeless, gave them jobs as hired hands if they were able to work, or sought homes for them. When a young couple named John and Nancy (Taylor) Crouse died, leaving three small children, Doyle arranged for one of the boys, David E. Crouse, to be taken in by Joseph Hagie and his wife Elizabeth. No one seems to know what happened to the other children.

Joseph and Elizabeth had no

children of their own, therefore David E. Crouse, who is Jerry's grandfather, became owner of the homestead. Later, the house went to Jerry's father, David P. It was occupied last by Jerry's mother, Myrtle Marie, who died in 1982.

Since her death, maintenance of the house has been time consuming and difficult, and that is why Jerry and Ann have opted to take it down. The decision was not easy in light of its historical background.

Though the house will no longer stand in Shade Valley, the Crouse family will continue to delight in their memories of life lived there, of loved ones who have gone on. The threads of interwoven lives exist uniquely in an extended country family. Ancestors are remembered; the Crouses carry on.

“It was when Jacob Hagie I [father of Jacob Hegie II] and his wife Margaret were living on their farm in Shade Valley that the Russian-born Prince, Father Demetrius A. Gallitzin (Galli) stopped for a night's lodging on his journey from Baltimore by horseback. Mrs. Hegie was suffering with a heart ailment. They did not belong to the Catholic Church, but she said if Father Gallitzin could cure her distress she would join his church. On his next visit the next year she was entirely cured and her happiness was so great that she and her entire family joined the church. It was also on one of Father Gallitzin's visits that he wrote the page in the old Hegie Bible which is being fully preserved by Charles Crouse of Shirleysburg, PA.”<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>38</sup>Bernice Werner McMath, *The Hegie Family*, 1948, Shade Valley Catholic Church 1789-1948 Sequi-Centennial.



## VI - The Church

Both Samuel and Sarah Hegie McMullen are buried in the cemetery adjacent to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Shade Gap, which was built between 1840 and 1848.<sup>39</sup> The church seats at most 70 people, and a small entry area was added later to the original church.



St. Mary's Church



Samuel S. McMullen  
Tombstone



Sarah Hegie  
McMullen Tombstone

“‘The Register’.... quotes that a ‘Catholic colony has existed there {Shade Gap} for 60 years, with Mass offered occasionally in private homes.’ That goes back to 1787, the year the federal constitution was drawn up in Philadelphia, and two years before George Washington was inaugurated President, and 22 years before Prince Gallitzin became the first resident pastor of the diocese and St. Mary’s Church (1796-1800).”<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>39</sup>*Sesqui-Centennial of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Shade Valley, Pennsylvania, 1798-1948*

<sup>40</sup>*Ibid.*

A covered bridge is across the road from the church.



## VII - The Homestead

The McMullen homestead in the Shade Gap area was purchased from the estate of John Hegie and remains in the McMullen family.<sup>41</sup> The current owners are Ed and Magdelene (McMullen) Corley, Helen (McMullen) Hunter and daughters, and Paul and Judy McMullen.

The original house was torn down when the later structure was erected. This house, pictured below (now also torn down because of the poor condition) was built about 1895. Heated with a wood stove, it had no running water. The porch on the upper level was used to hang laundry. Electricity was installed about 1944.



The barn shown above is about 200 years old. That structure was torn down on August 16, 2007.

When asked how the family managed to get to town in the winter, since the house is a distance from the road and down a steep slope, Ed Corley said, “They did not get out. You stayed in for the winter.”<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>41</sup>Deeds, Huntingdon County Courthouse, Huntingdon, PA, Book Y2, p 551.

<sup>42</sup>Interview with Ed Corley by author, August 2004

James McMullen, son of Harvey McMullen, who spent many summers on the farm, said the uphill drive leading out to the road was constructed with level sections spaced on the slope so as to give the horses an opportunity to rest.<sup>43</sup>

The cemetery on the ridge to the east behind the McMullen homestead contains 46 graves, most of which are indicated with unmarked pieces of limestone. The oldest dated stone is 1836. Buried there are Barbara McMullen and her son, William Franklin McMullen, his wife, Abigail, and their children. Barbara McMullen was the daughter of John French, and was married to a William McMullen.<sup>44</sup> The French property was immediately to the east of the property. The relationship between the families is unknown.



Stone marker  
without a name



Author in  
family cemetery

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<sup>43</sup>Interview with James McMullen, August 2005.

<sup>44</sup>Ray Noval, *John French*, October 6, 2000, RootsWeb Message Boards - Message [Huntingdon]

## VIII - Descendants of Samuel and Sarah McMullen

The children of Samuel and Sarah McMullen are (*see chart on page 7*):

- Joseph married to Madelene Horton,
- Annastatia married to David Crouse,
- Sylvester married to Amanda Latherow, and
- Jacob Albert married to Agnes Holmes Irwin.

Jacob Albert and Agnes Holmes Erwin McMullen made their home on the farm in Shade Gap. Their nine children are:

- Mary McMullen married to George Gilliard
- Margaret McMullen married to Rudolph Chilcote. They remained in Shade Gap.
- Charles McMullen married to Mary McGoldrick
- Harvey McMullen married to Gertrude Reivel. They lived in Johnstown.
- Robert Ambrose McMullen married to Anna Mary Krugh. They lived at Richvale.
- John McMullen married to Mary Amanda Starr. They remained in Shade Gap.
- Emory McMullen married Edna Murphy. They lived in Illinois.
- Annie McMullen married Charles Joseph Parson. They remained in Shade Gap.
- Amanda McMullen married Arthur McGrain

In her later years Agnes McMullen was blind as a complication of diabetes.



Jacob Albert and  
Agnes Holmes Erwin  
McMullen



Annie McMullen  
(from tintype)



Robert Ambrose (third son of Jacob Albert and Agnes) and his wife Anna Mary Krugh lived at Richvale, just a bit north of Shade Gap. Ambrose died in 1907 at age 28. His widow and son, Jacob, moved to the family homestead near Shade Gap and lived with Jacob Albert and Agnes. Jacob grew up on the farm and after the death of his grandparents he acquired the property.<sup>45</sup>



Jacob McMullen and  
Julia Starr McMullen

**John Albert McMullen**

Mount Union, May 9 —Jacob Albert McMullen, a well known farmer of Tell township, Huntingdon county and a lifelong resident of that section died at his farm home at 10:00 o'clock Wednesday night, May 8, 1935. Although he had not been in the best of health for several days, his sudden passing was a great shock to his family and friends. He had eaten his dinner and later had seemed in his usual health, but about ten minutes afterward his daughter found him dead in bed.

He was born on August 16, 1851 in Tell township and was a son of Samuel and Sarah (Hagle) McMullen, both deceased. At the time of death he was aged 83 years, 8 months and 22 days.

In 1872 at Doylesburg, he was united in marriage to Nancy Agnes Erwin, also of Tell township, who died August 8, 1933. He was a devout Catholic and had been a member of Saint Mary's Catholic church of Shade Valley during his entire life. He was a good neighbor had friends, as well as a devoted father and husband, and his passing will be keenly felt by the entire neighborhood where he spent his life.

Seven children survive: Mrs. Margaret Chilcote, of Shade Valley; Miss Annie McMullen, at home; Charles E., of Cone-maugh; Harvey A., of Johnstown; John A., of Cromwell township; W. Emory, of Polo, Ill.; Mrs. Amanda E. McGrain, of Bloomdale, Ohio. Four children are deceased. Thirty-five grandchildren and twenty-three great grandchildren also survive.

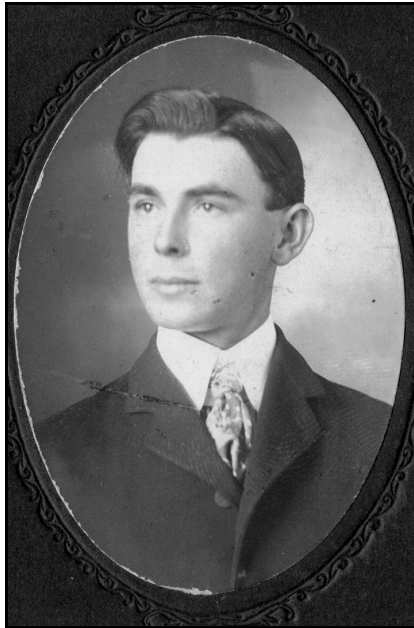
A prayer service will be held at the McMullen home at 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning, May 11, followed by solemn high mass of requiem at Saint Mary's Catholic church said by Rev. John A. Kerkoska. Interment will be made in Saint Mary's cemetery. Blatt's funeral service.

(Title should read Jacob  
Albert McMullen)  
Obituary courtesy of  
Marsha Troy

<sup>45</sup>Interview with Helen McMullen Hunter by author, August 2006.

## IX - Harvey McMullen and Family

Our direct ancestor, Harvey McMullen, left Shade Gap and the farm in the early 1900s for Johnstown, Pennsylvania. His first job was as a conductor on a horse-drawn street car. When the line was electrified about 1905, he wanted no part of the task. His next job with a lumber company, led to his later becoming a carpenter.<sup>46</sup>



Harvey McMullen



Gertrude Reivel  
McMullen

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<sup>46</sup>Interview with James McMullen by author, August 2005.



Harvey and Gertrude were married on November 7, 1905. Attendants in the picture are identified as Amanda Starr McMullen and John (most likely John McMullen, brother of Harvey and husband of Amanda).<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>47</sup>Harvey A. McMullen and Gertie Rievel Certificate of Excerpts from Marriage License Record, Orphans Court, Cambria County, PA.





The four-generation picture was probably taken in late 1906 or 1907. Standing is Gertrude Rievel McMullen. On the left is Mary Apollonia Farabaugh Rievel, mother of Gertrude. On the right is *probably* Mary Ann Becker (or Baker) Farabaugh, mother of Mary. The child is Robert Harvey McMullen, first born of Harvey and Gertrude McMullen.<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>48</sup>Individuals in photo identified by Virginia Gyan.

Harvey McMullen and family first lived at 717 Clark Street, Dale Borough, Johnstown. Harvey built the Clark Street Home, and about 1928 he built the family home in Geistown, Pennsylvania, which is still standing and occupied today.<sup>49</sup>



Tools used by  
Harvey McMullen



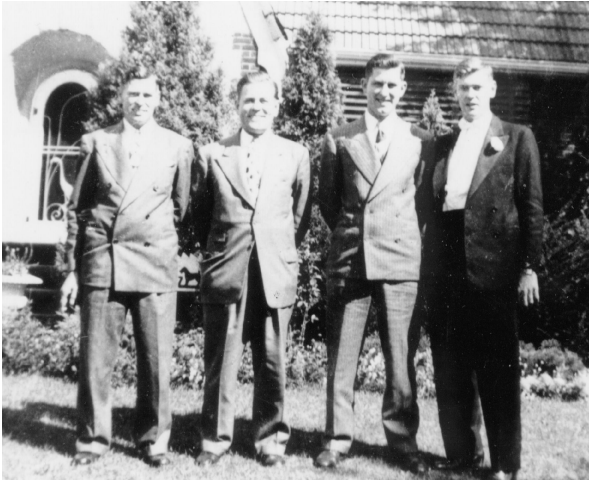
Home built in Geistown, PA., by  
Harvey McMullen

The children of Harvey and Gertrude McMullen are:

- Robert married to Mildred Stibich. They lived in Royal Oak, Ferndale and Oak Park, Michigan.
- Mary Agnes married to Joseph Updegraff. They lived in Windber, Pennsylvania.
- Cletus married to Margaret Frazier. After the death of Margaret, he married Nettie Ashton. They lived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Frances married to William Mills. They lived in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.
- Dolores married to Paul Canon and Russell Houser. They lived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Adelaide married to Anthony Kaiser. They lived in Royal Oak, Michigan, and later Muskegon, Michigan.
- Rose Alma married to Joseph Rodgers. They lived in Royal Oak, Michigan
- James married to Margaret Brandle. They lived in Birmingham, Prudenville and Gladwin, Michigan
- Donald married to Margaret Kozdera. They lived in Cleveland, Ohio
- Margaret married to Frank Balicky. They live in Virginia.

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<sup>49</sup>Interview with James McMullen, son of Harvey McMullen, by author, August 2006.



Robert, Cletus, James, Donald  
Sons of Harvey and Gertrude McMullen



Adelaide, Dolores, Mary Agnes,  
Margaret (Peg), Gertrude, Alma, Frances  
Daughters of Harvey and  
Gertrude McMullen



Harvey and Gertrude McMullen,  
Eleanor McMullen Blumenschein  
Royal Oak, MI, 1937 or 1938

## Harvey McMullen, Former Carpenter, Dies in 66th Year

Harvey A. McMullen, 65, well-known former carpenter, died at 10:47 a. m. yesterday at his home in Geistown. A carpenter in this district for 45 years, Mr. McMullen last worked for C. C. Hornick & Sons, retiring in January because of failing health. A native of Shade Gap, Huntingdon County, Mr. McMullen was a son of the late Jacob and Agnes (Irvin) McMullen. He was a member of the Holy Name Society.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Gertrude (Rievel) McMullen, and 10 children—Robert, intermarried with Mildred Stibich, Ferndale, Mich.; Mary Agnes, wife of Joseph Updegraff, Windber; Cletus, intermarried with Nettie Ashton, Upper Darby; Frances, wife of William Miller, Grant St.; Adelaide, wife of Anthony Kaiser, Royal Oak, Mich.; Dolores, wife of Paul Cannon, Philadelphia; Alma, wife of Joseph Rodgers, Detroit, Mich.; Pfc. James, with the Marines overseas; Pvt. Donald, Camp Young, Cal., and Margaret, at home. There are 20 grandchildren. Mr. McMullen was a brother of Mrs. Margaret Chilcote, Shade Gap; Charles McMullen, Conemaugh; John McMullen, Pittsburgh; Emory McMullen, Polo, Ill.; Annie McMullen and Mrs. Amanda McGrain, both of Bloomdale, O.

Friends will be received after noon today at the late residence. Funeral services will be held in St. Benedict's Catholic Church, the time to be determined upon word from the son in California. Interment, under the direction of S. J. Conway & Son, will be in Grandview Cemetery.

**McMULLEN**—Mrs. Gertrude M., 72, died Jan. 31, 1958, at home of daughter, Mrs. Joseph H. Updegraff, 514 Horner Street, Windber. Born Dec. 31, 1885, in Johnstown, daughter of Alex and Mary (Farbaugh) Rievel. Preceded in death by husband, Harvey A. McMullen, 1943; also son, Donald. Survived by these children: Robert A., Oak Park, Mich.; Mary Agnes, wife of Joseph H. Updegraff, mentioned; Cletus, Havertown, Pa.; Frances, wife of William Mills, Johnstown; Adelaide, wife of Anthony Kaiser, Muskegon, Mich.; Dolores, wife of Russell Houser, Philadelphia; Alma, wife of Joseph Rodgers, Royal Oak, Mich.; James, Birmingham, Mich., and Margaret, wife of Frank Balicky, New Orleans, La.; 44 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Sister of Mrs. Rose Mary Young, Windber; Mrs. Joseph Gyan and Mrs. Albert Fisher, both of Geistown; Mrs. Callista Hershberger, Mrs. Fred Riddle and William, all of Johnstown, and Cyril, Ogletown. Former resident of Geistown. Member of St. Benedict's Catholic Church. Friends received after 7 p. m. Saturday in Donald C. Dimond Funeral Home. Other arrangements incomplete.

They may be gone, but they live on in our memories.