

Friends of Camp Security



A Revolutionary War Era Prison Camp
(1781-1783)

2016, Edition 5

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During this holiday season, please consider a contribution to Friends of Camp Security. It costs approximately \$25,000 and 60 volunteers each summer to excavate and search for the details of where and how people lived in this camp. The funds we raise at GoFundMe will be entirely spent on these archaeological digs and will provide funding for summer excavations in 2017 and 2018. Please help us with our goal of preserving, interpreting, and commemorating this important United States historic site.

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Schultz House History

A history of Schultz House ownership has been assembled by Historic York, Inc. (2010). It is reproduced below and demonstrates a complex web of direct (on-site) and indirect (absentee) possession.

Martin and Valentine Schultz emigrated from the Friedelsheim in the Palatinate region of Germany, arriving in Philadelphia in 1732. Continuing to move westward, the Schultz brothers became part of the

first wave of settlement to cross the Susquehanna River from Lancaster into York. Along with other German-speaking families, they settled in the Kreutz Creek valley of what is now Hellam Township, attractive for its fertile soils as well as its physiographic similarity to the Palatinate.

Their brother Johannes and his wife Cristina later followed in Martin's and Valentine's footsteps. Johannes and Cristina Schultz chose land at the upper end of the Kreutz Creek Valley about seven miles west of the Susquehanna. The land was located along the Monocacy Road, which was the main route leading from Wrights Ferry (Wrightsville) in the northeast to Hanover in the southwest, and beyond (the approximate route of PA 462 or Old US 30). The couple built a substantial stone farmhouse, following brother Martin's example. The Martin Schultz house in what is now Hallam Borough and the Johannes and Cristina Schultz house in what is now Springettsbury Township are thought to be the earliest stone dwellings in the region. Since all other buildings were constructed of log at that time, these two stone houses must have been extremely prominent.

There has been very considerable debate about the house's date of construction. For many decades it was assumed to be 1734 since the incised numbers on the house's date stone have that appearance. However, in recent years, further research would seem to indicate that Johannes and Cristina Schultz did not arrive in America until the early 1750s. The date stone possibly could be read as 1752 or 1754. In any case, it is clear that more extensive research, both documentary and physical, must be undertaken.

Johannes and Cristina Schultz farmed their 200-acre plantation, and raised their three children there: John, Jacob and Anna Maria. It is known that they were active members of the first Lutheran congregation to be established west of the Susquehanna, the Kreutz Creek Church. They purchased a second property about three miles to the east on which their son Jacob settled. Johannes and Cristina died two months apart in the summer of 1758, and their son John inherited the plantation and stone house.

John Schultz soon discovered that his parents had been squatters, never acquiring proper title to their land. This may have been due to the fact that in 1681 William Penn had sold the land on which they chose to settle. Their plantation was part of 500 acres owned by three generations of an English family named Crosby. Never coming to the colonies, the Crosby family sold 'the remainder' to Philip Epracht in 1750. When John Schultz inherited the farm in 1758, it was still owned by Epracht and his wife Elizabeth, by then residents of Lancaster County. Three years later in 1761, Epracht warranted the property. That year John Schultz paid the Eprachts 200 pounds to keep the 200 acres and house in which he had been raised. He had the property surveyed by the Penns' agent and received his patent in 1764. He also warranted and surveyed 77 acres of wood lot adjacent on the south to the family plantation. Married the summer of 1758, John and his wife Catherine raised seven children in the stone house. John had a variety of occupations including farmer, hatter and innkeeper. He received his first known tavern license in Hellam Township the year he married and inherited the farm. Because the house sat close to the heavily traveled Monocacy Road, he had an ample supply of customers. Between 1763 and 1783, John's tavern was located in York Town, in one of three buildings he either owned or rented during that 20-year period. John does not appear to have been a successful businessman as he was forced to sell the plantation in 1774. He and his family remained on the property as tenants, continuing to pay the taxes on the land for over a decade. New owner Christian Oberholtzer quickly sold it to his Lancaster County neighbor David Brubacher [Brubaker] two years later in 1776.

The Schultz family left the property in 1783. John moved to Baltimore while Catherine and their two unmarried daughters remained in the York area. Owner Brubaker quickly found a new tenant for the farm, by this time dubbed 'Schultzburg' after the Schultz Family. This new tenant was Samuel Landis who with his family farmed the plantation for 16 years until he bought his own farm in 1801. In 1798, the house was one of 15 two-story stone houses in Hellam Township (Springettsbury Township was not formed out of Hellam until 1891). Evidently its condition was not the best as it had the lowest assessed value in the group.

The 280-acre Schultzburg plantation had remained vacant for over a year when absentee owner Brubaker sold it to brothers Francis and Isaac Groff of Lancaster County in May 1802. Brubaker agreed to finance the transaction, signing a bond agreement whereby each brother owed a payment of 200 pounds each April 1st for a period of ten years. The brothers split the land east-west, with Francis keeping the larger eastern portion with the Schultz House and the spring. The Groff Brothers each took up a milling occupation, perhaps due to the fact that their property was ideal for this use, given the stream which ran through its center. In February of 1805, they wrote up and recorded an agreement

which allowed each brother to construct different types of mills and construct mill races as needed, as well as noting the times of the year each would have primary use of the water in the stream.

Francis Groff operated a gristmill and sawmill while Isaac operated fulling, carding, oil, hemp and chopping mills. Francis also built a new frame house at the north end of his parcel near his two mills. These buildings are no longer extant. They were located on what is now an adjoining parcel and public park. Francis never was successful as a miller and amassed a debt from financing the new construction. In 1811, he and his wife Susanna sold their 183.21 acres of Schultzberg along with its two houses, mills and plantation. Isaac, however, remained a successful fuller on the western half of Schultzberg until his death in 1828. This difference may have been due to the lack of local competition in the fulling industry, giving Isaac a monopoly in the area.

The new owner of the property in 1811 was Christian Hammacher, a millwright and mill owner from several miles east in Hellam Township. He moved his saw and gristmill business to the property, probably enlarging the mill to accommodate more types of customers. Christian resided with his wife Anna and their family in the newer frame house built by Francis Groff. In 1822 he sold the stone Schultz House along with its outbuildings and 84.4 acres in the center of the former Schultzberg plantation to neighbor Isaac Groff. About half of this 84+ acres is located within the parcel as it is bounded today. Isaac leased the Schultz House to carpenter Amos Green and his wife Rebecca. In 1825, the two men exchanged land for carpentry work: Amos received the Schultz House, its outbuildings and an adjoining 43 acres of land while Isaac got a new frame house built by Amos. This partition formed the western boundary of the parcel as it exists today. Given Amos's occupation and the age and condition of the house by the 1820s, it is assumed that he modernized the home, removing the central chimney and somewhat altering the Germanic three-room floor plan. The Greens lived in the house from 1812 until 1834, a period of over 22 years during which they raised four children. In 1834 they bought Isaac Groff's estate including his land and the original stone house. The purchase gave them additional farmland and provided their son Adam with a fulling mill.

After standing vacant for several years, the Schultz House and its 43 acres were purchased by Magdalena Forry in 1837. She was related to Amos and Rebecca Green by marriage – her daughter Susanna was married to their son Amos. Her much older husband Henry passed away in 1836, forcing her to move out of the Forry family farm in Hellam Township. She had been his second wife, a situation which left her with few rights to the Forry property. She was able to buy the Schultz House and its land for \$3000. It was ideally located adjacent to her daughter and near her son Rudolf, who farmed a large parcel about a half-mile to the west. Magdalena lived in the house for the remainder of her life, a period of over 30 years. She rented the land to local farmers, first Jacob Lehman and later Daniel Landis, who grew wheat, corn, rye, oats and apples.

Magdalena Forry's will directed her executor to sell her land and belongings. Her house and its 43 acres were sold to A. Hiestand Glatz in 1869. A. H. Glatz was the member of a prominent York County family. His grandfather was Abraham Hiestand, one of the area's richest men during the mid-1800s. Abraham Hiestand's business began with whiskey production and tavern keeping. By the 1840s, he owned five separate farms east of York on which he grew the grain needed for distilling whiskey, with sons and/or grandsons living on and running each of the farms. In 1824, he had acquired Christian Hammacher's 104.65 acres of the former Schultzberg plantation. Hammacher was in great debt to Hiestand, paying off the debt with his land and mill. Hiestand and his heirs operated the mill throughout the remainder of the 19th century.

At his death in 1860, Abraham Hiestand willed the 104.65 acre parcel to his widowed daughter Susan H. Glatz, who had been without property since her husband's death several years before. For the next decade, Susan lived in the frame house while relatives ran the mill. It was her son A. H. Glatz who bought the Schultz House from the Magdalena Forry estate. A. H. Glatz was a prominent York County politician who had a great interest in the early history of the county. Delighted to own such an early building, he had a painting of the house commissioned just after its purchase. This painting gives us a picture of what the Schultz House looked like in the early 1870s, the appearance given to it by earlier owner carpenter Amos Green. Susan Glatz moved into the house, selling to her nephew William Hiestand the northernmost 22 acres of her adjoining land, which contained the gristmill and frame house. In 1872, her son A. H. Glatz gave her the Schultz House and its 43 acres, creating a 132-acre farm in her ownership. These 132 acres correspond with the parcel as it exists today, with the exception of several small subdivisions along its eastern boundary on Locust Grove Road.

With the financial assistance of her son, Susan H. Glatz had the Schultz House modernized and a new barn built during the 1870s, finishing in 1880. Many of the exterior and interior details date from this period including the roof, most windows, fireplace mantels, and the exterior and several interior doors. By this time, Susan's primary residence was in York, so it is not known how often she or her children stayed at this house. She rented the cropland and farm buildings to Israel Miller. After her death in 1883, her entire estate became vested in her daughter Margaret Glatz Matthews. Married to the very wealthy Colonel A. C. N. Matthews who owned large estates in the York and Baltimore areas, Margaret rented out the property along with the Schultz House. Her mother's tenant stayed until 1886, after which Jacob Miller was the tenant and caretaker until 1900. John Bupp was the tenant when Margaret moved into the house after her husband's death in 1910. She remained there until her death in 1921 with John Bupp acting as the property caretaker. Her will directed the executor to sell all her property and donate the proceeds to local charities.

In 1922, Emanuel Landis bought the 132-acre property with the 2½-story stone house and the outbuildings at public sale for \$103.50 per acre. He and his wife Susan lived on the farm during their ownership over the next two decades. Little is known about the Landises except that Emanuel grew up on a nearby farm. Also, he provided much of the oral history on the Schultz House to local historians during his tenure. Like A. H. Glatz, it appears that he enjoyed owning an early York County house with so much history and legend surrounding it. In 1944, the Landises sold the farm to young couple Clair and Beatrice Rowe. Although Mr. Rowe was a school teacher and later a school administrator, he and his wife also raised pigs and garden vegetables, selling their products at a market stand in York. When they bought and moved into the Schultz House, it still lacked most modern conveniences including central heat. During their first 15 years or so of ownership, they updated the home, adding central heat, a new kitchen, additional bathrooms and closets, and replacing the deteriorated shake roof with slate. They also sold several small house lots on the eastern boundary of the property, reducing its size to about 120 acres.

In 2007 Beatrice Rowe, recognizing the historic significance of the Schultz House and providing for its future preservation, donated the house and five acres of land surrounding the house to Historic York, Inc.

Schultz House Archaeological Testing

In 2009, under the direction of Stephen G. Warfel, archaeological testing was undertaken on the Schultz House Property. The report has just been added to our website. You can read Steve's report of that investigation at our website [campsecurity.org](http://www.campsecurity.org) under the archaeology tab or by clicking here:

<http://www.campsecurity.org/archaeological-testing-at-the-schultz-house/>

Next Month's Issue

In our next issue, we continue with our look at the Schultz House by sharing a contemporary account of life in the Schultz House.

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